



Chet Arnold, Univ. of CT Center for Land Use Education and Research





Sea Grant Association Meeting, October 2009





### Research, Tools & Training, Outreach







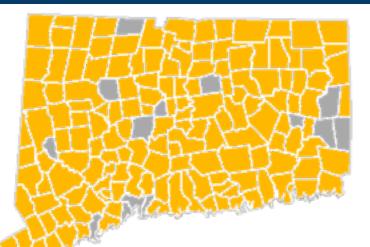
#### A focus on community officials











#### The CT NEMO Program

CT NEMO has been around since 1991 and worked with 155 of CT's 169 towns

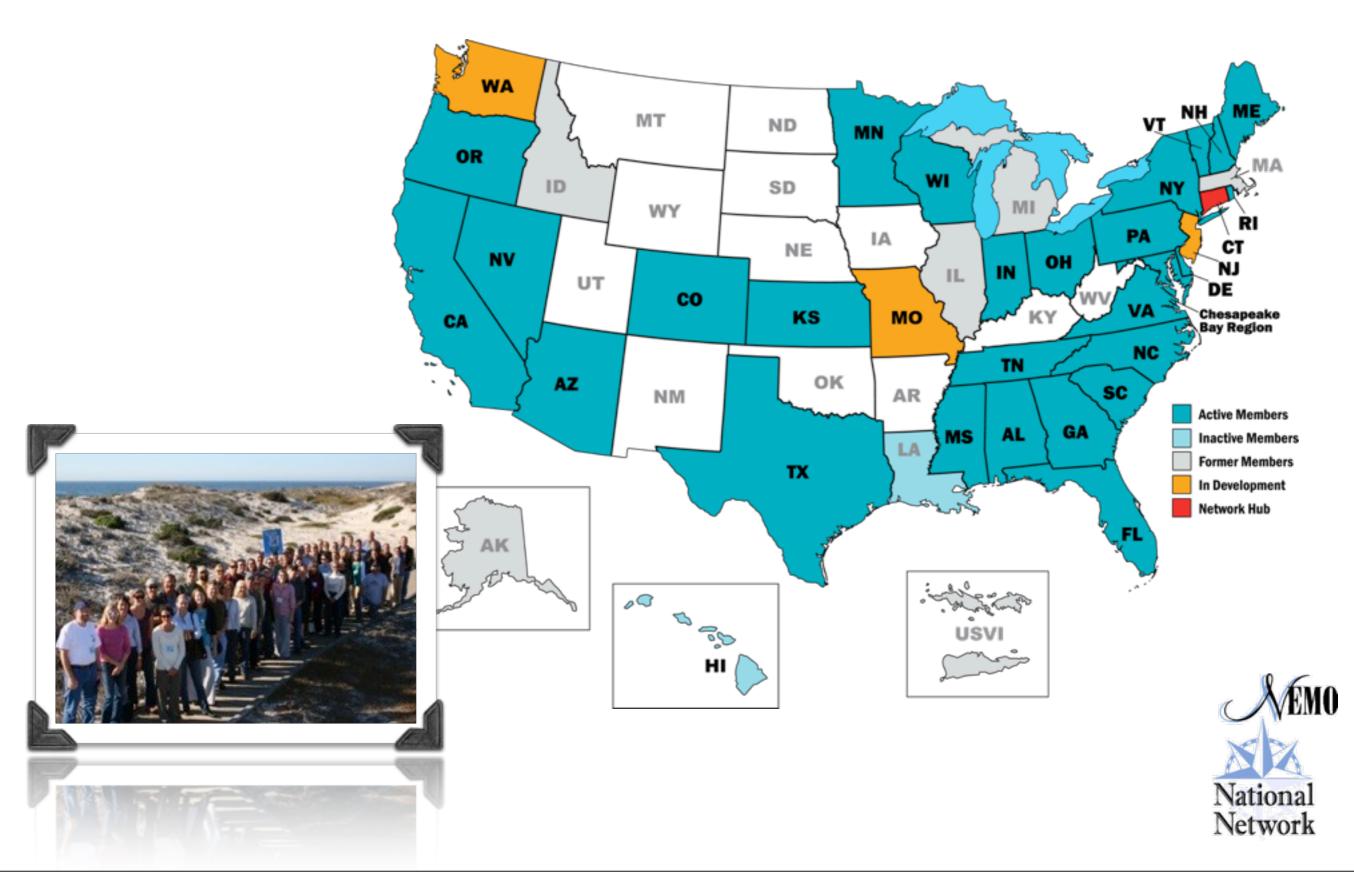


#### NEMO Family Values

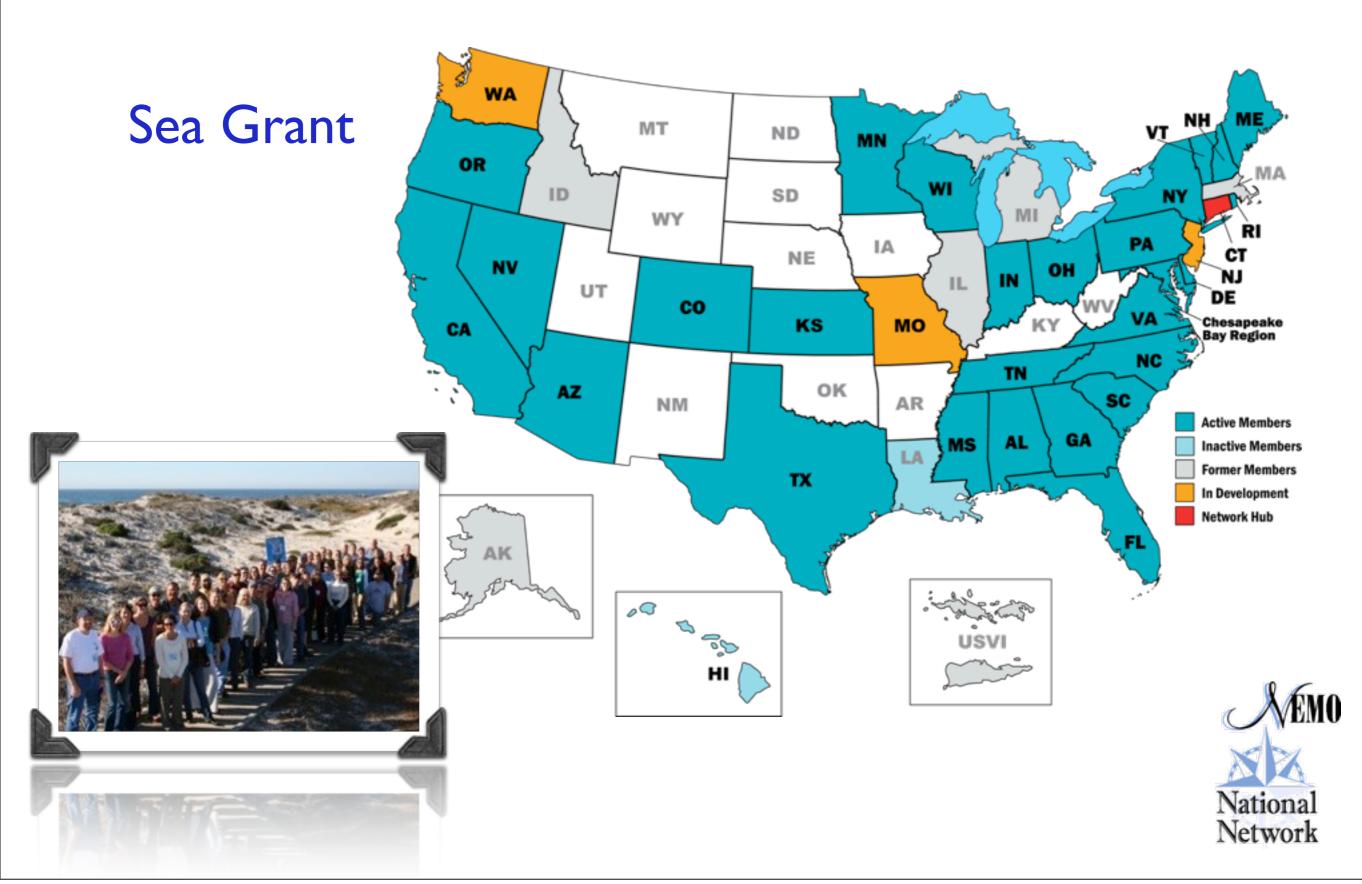
- Land Use Impact on water resources is the issue
- Local Land Use Officials are the target audience
- Natural Resource Based
   Planning is Solution Offered
- Education is the Method
- Geospatial Data Enhances the Message



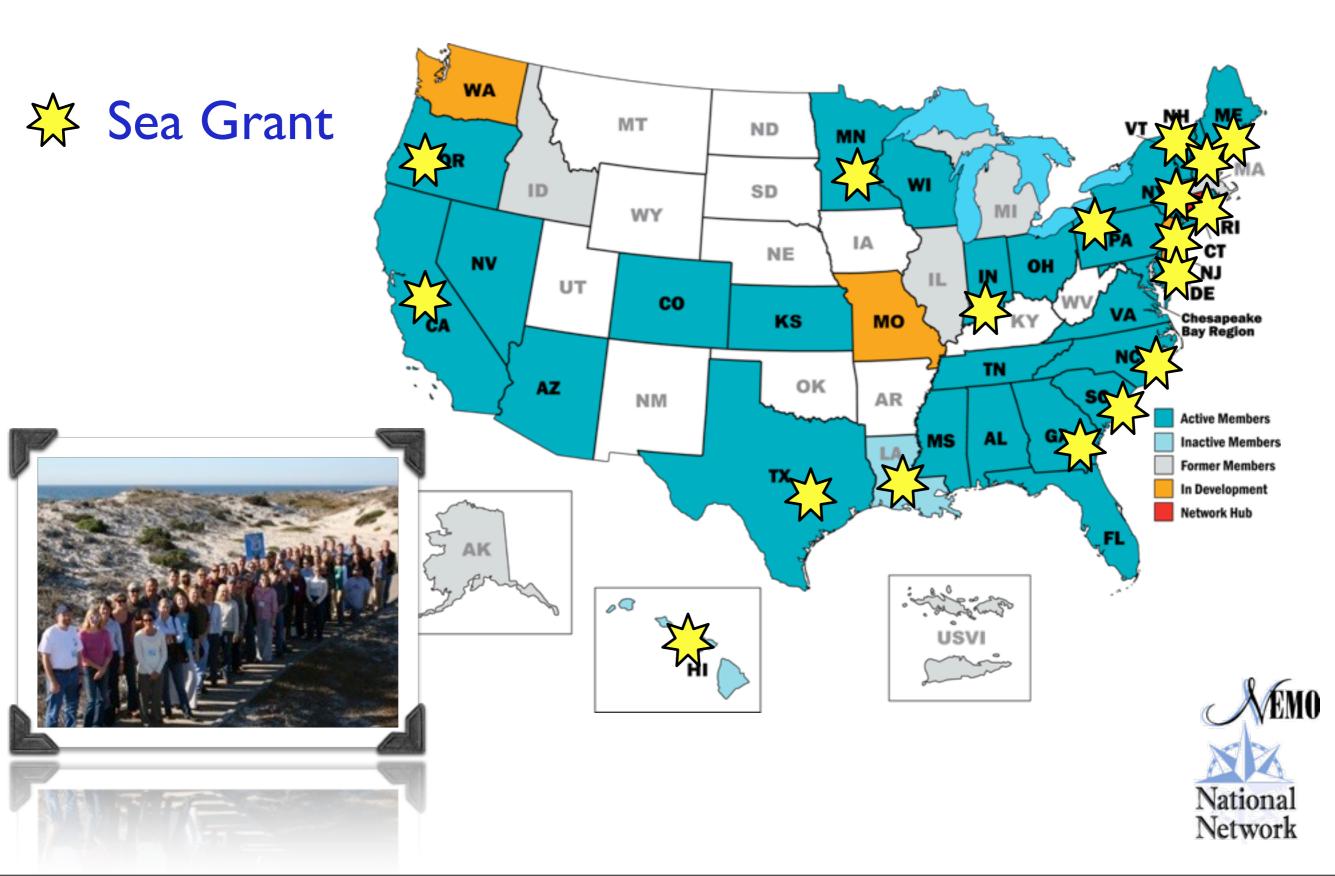
#### The National NEMO Network Circa 2009



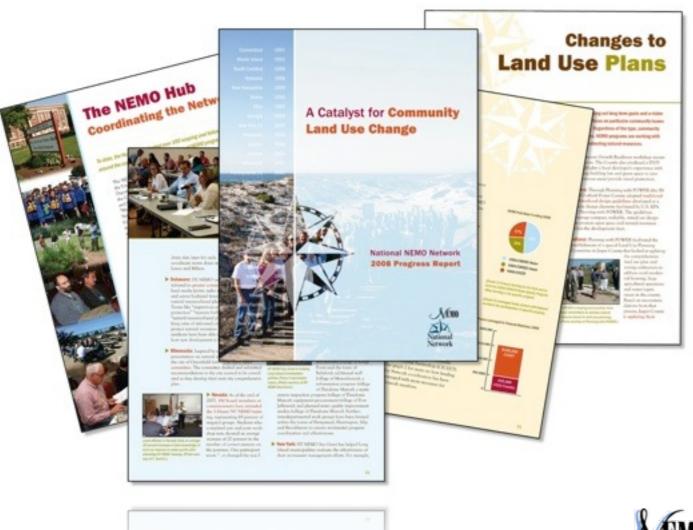
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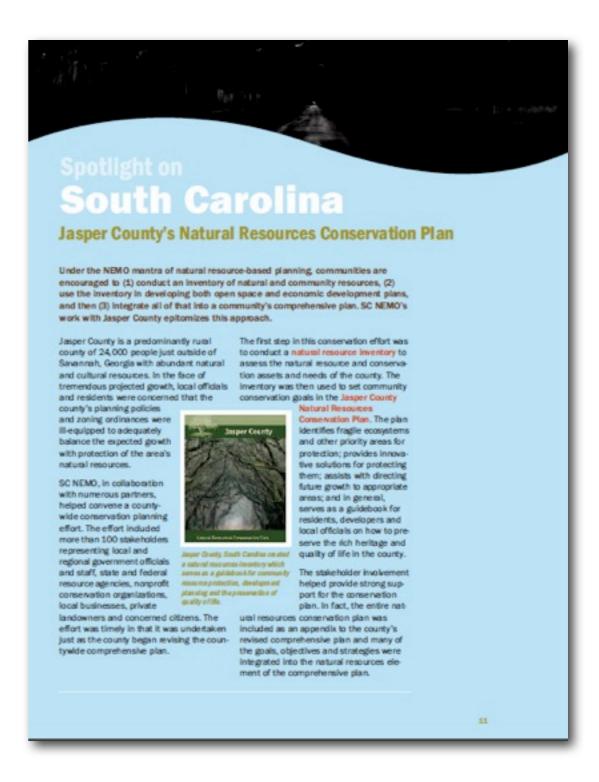
#### The National NEMO Network Circa 2009



#### Catalyzing change at the local level

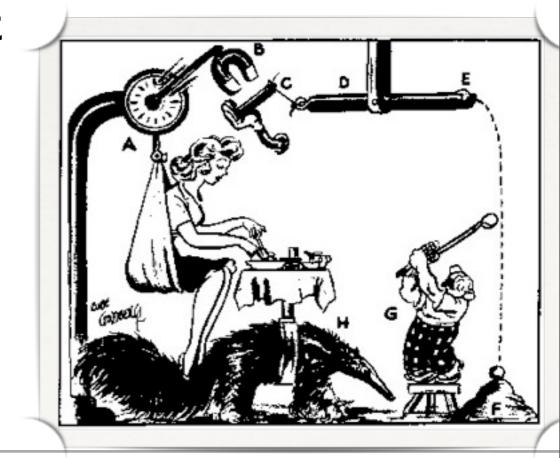






#### Today's Tour de Force to include....

- Communities as the target audience
- The evolution of geospatial technologies & decision support
- Deep thoughts, with examples

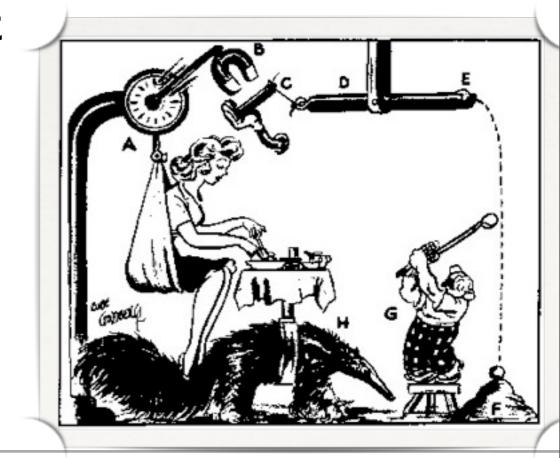






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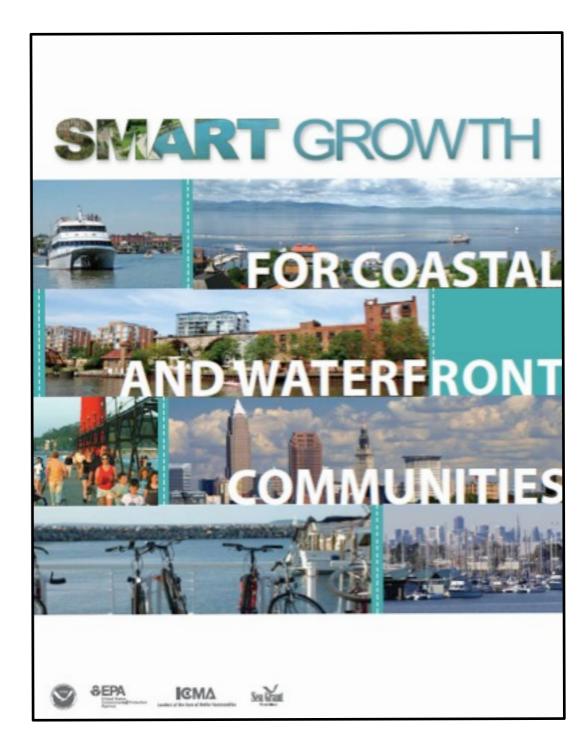






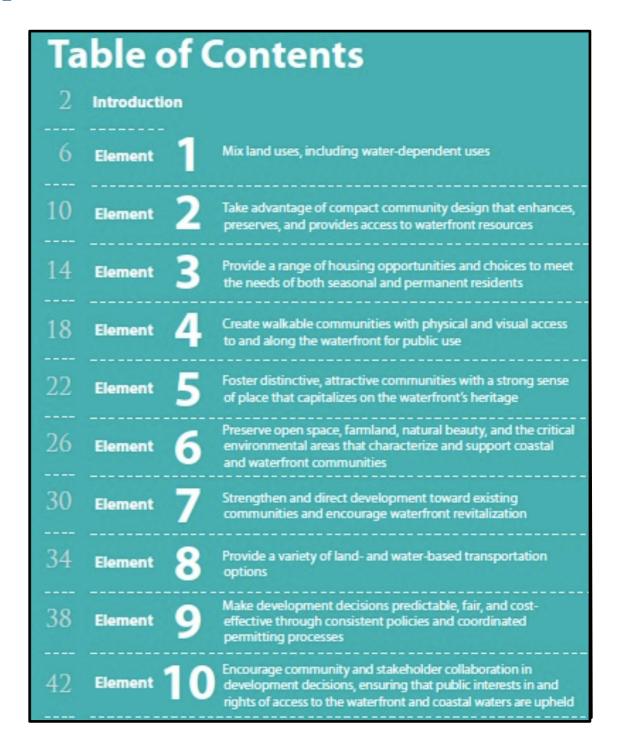
## The complexity of charting a community's future

- natural resource-based planning
- green infrastructure
- low impact development
- community resiliency
- smart growth



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I. takes a long time





- 1. takes a long time
- 2. progresses in fits and starts





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- 3. works best when you come to them





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- 4. can be political (??!!)





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- 6. ... but is very gratifying when it does

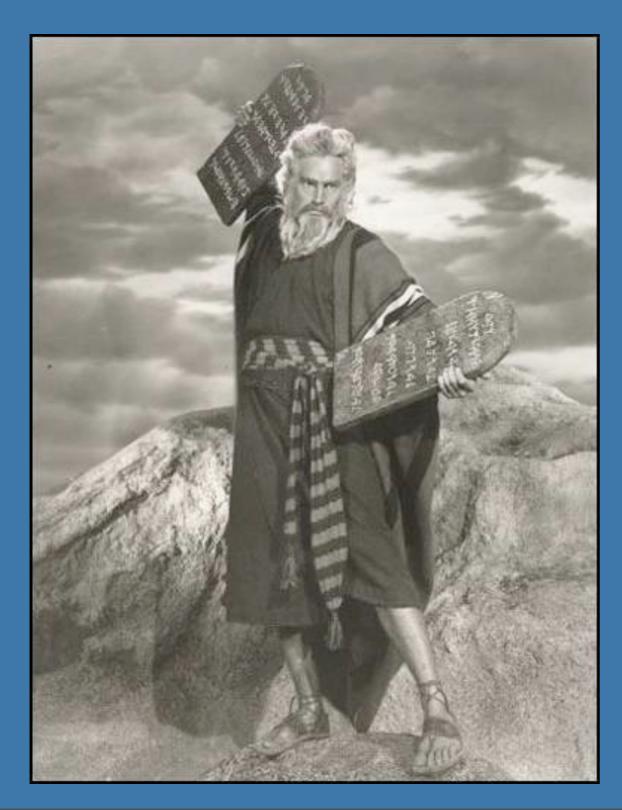


- 1. takes a long time
- 2. progresses in fits and starts
- 3. works best when you come to them
- 4. can be political (??!!)
- 5. doesn't always end in success...
- 6. ... but is very gratifying when it does
- 7. needs to be presented within the context of their world

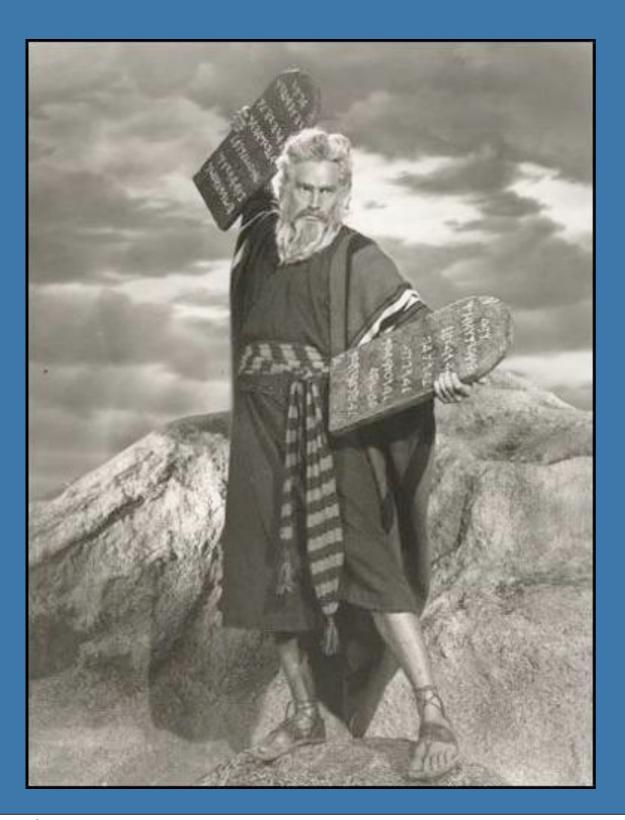




#### The myth of The Model Reg



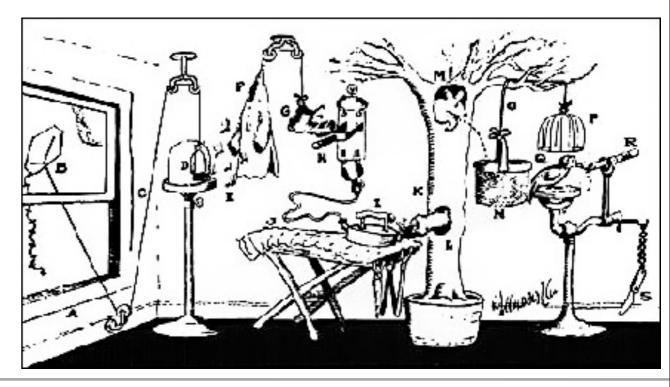
#### The myth of The Model Reg



- comprehensive plans
- open space plans
- economic dev. plans
- zoning regs
- subdivision regs
- road standards
- maintenance routines
- etc., etc., etc.
- etc.

#### Today's Tour de Force to include....

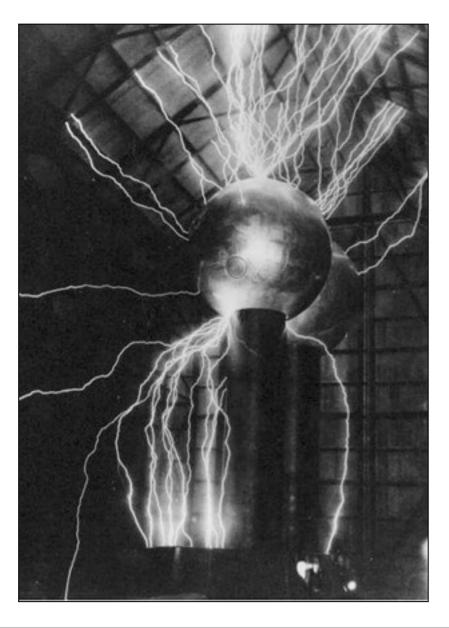
- Communities as the target audience
- The evolution of geospatial technologies & decision support
- Deep thoughts, with examples







# In the beginning, there was expensive, impenetrable & inaccessible GIS & RS not used by any but the largest cities





### The NEMO breakthrough: geospatial maps & imagery as an educational asset & catalyst for change



# Over time, geospatial technology goes PC and becomes accessible to many (but by no means all) communities

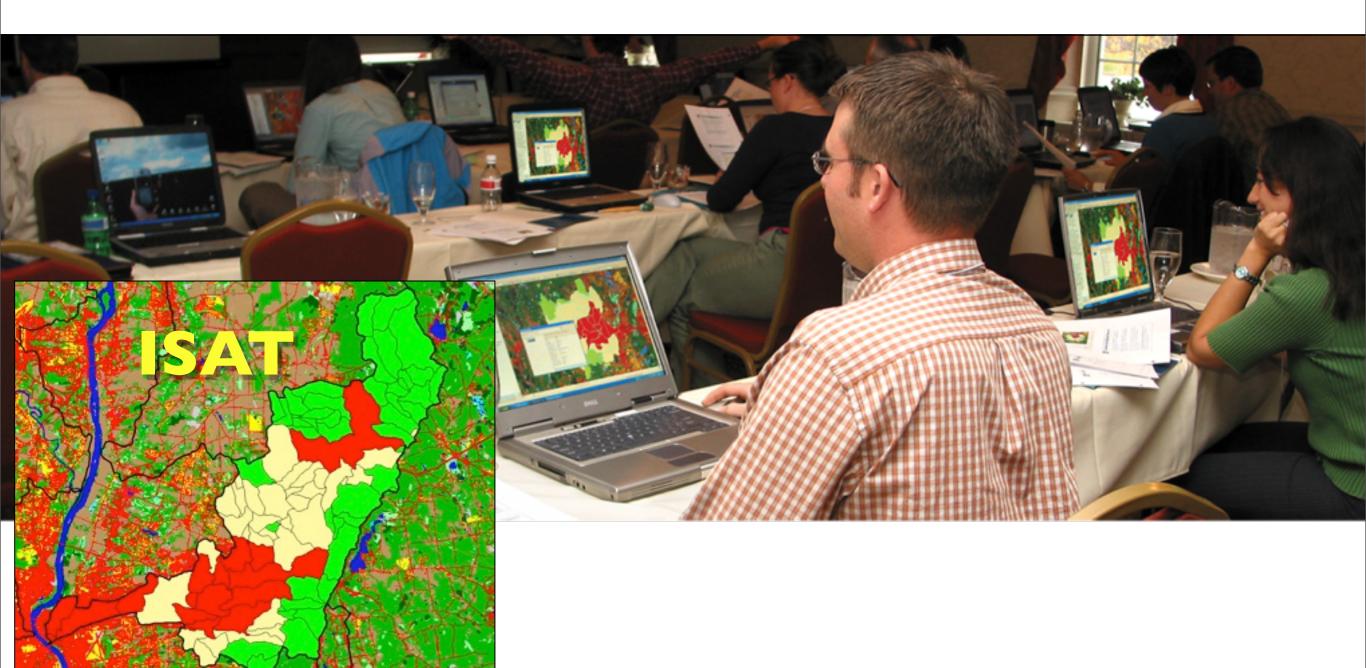


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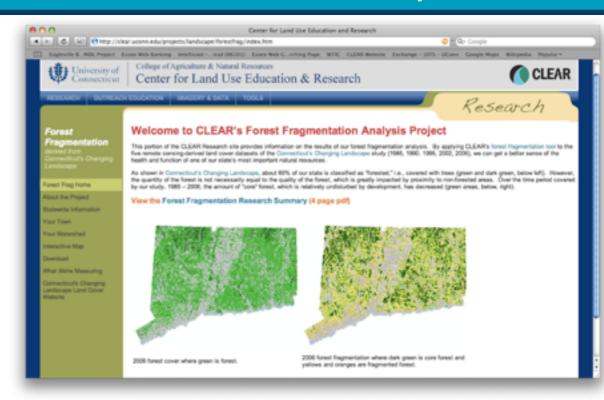


- property tax tracking
- school bus routing
- fire and evacuation routes
- etc.

# Soon, analytical geospatial tools to inform land use decision making were proliferating & becoming accessible (to some)



# A small sampling of GIS-based analytical tools used by CCD & NEMO Sea Grant staff



- CommunityViz (Orton/Placeways)
- ISAT (UConn-CSC)
- N-SPECT (CSC)
- LandFrag Tool (UConn-Placeways)
- L-THIA (Purdue)
- Habitat Priority Planner (CSC)
- LEAM (UIUC)

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Assess Present

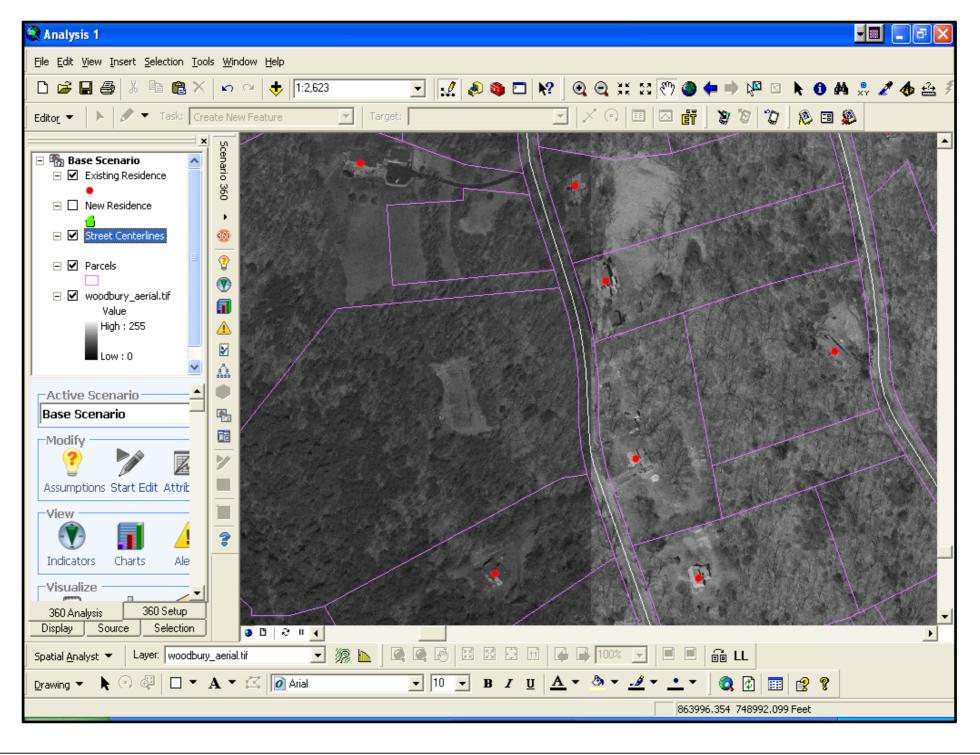
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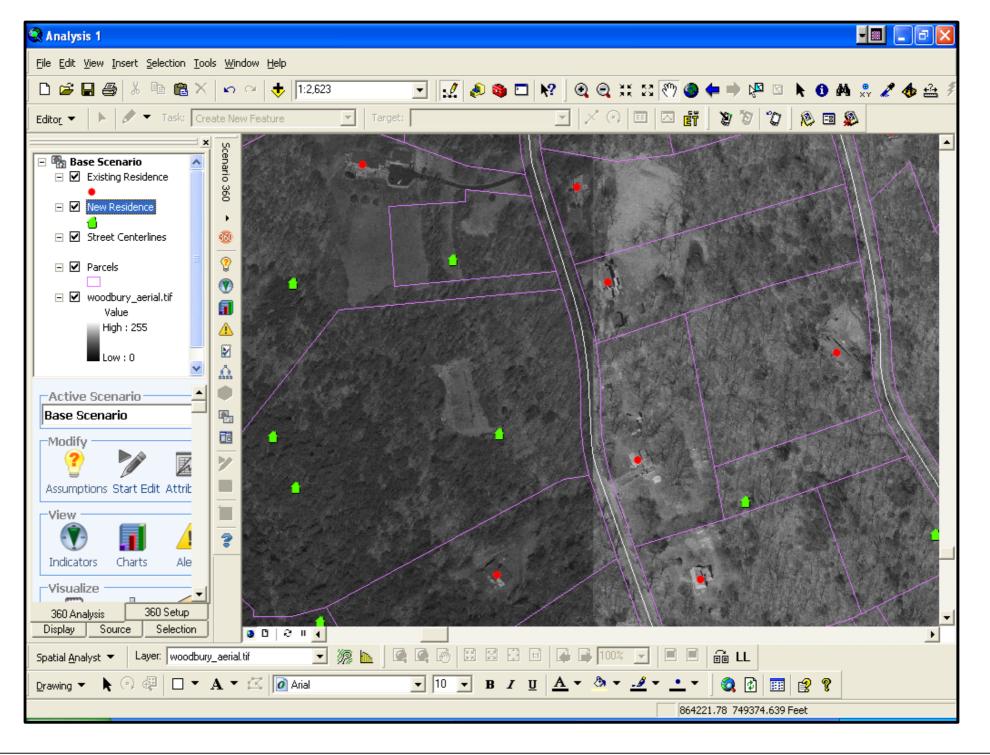


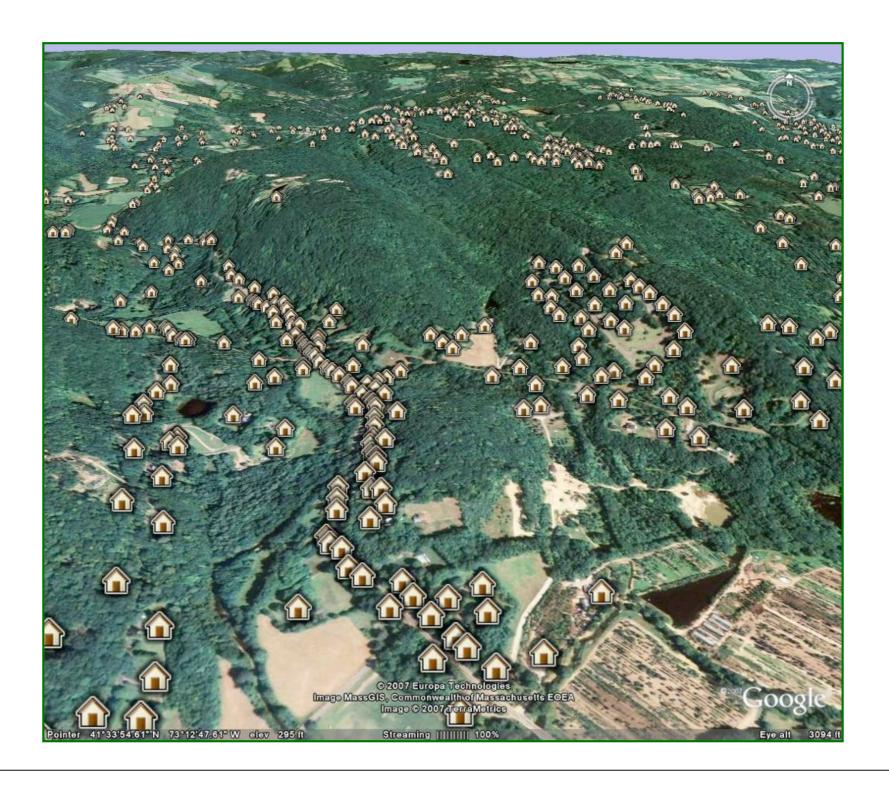
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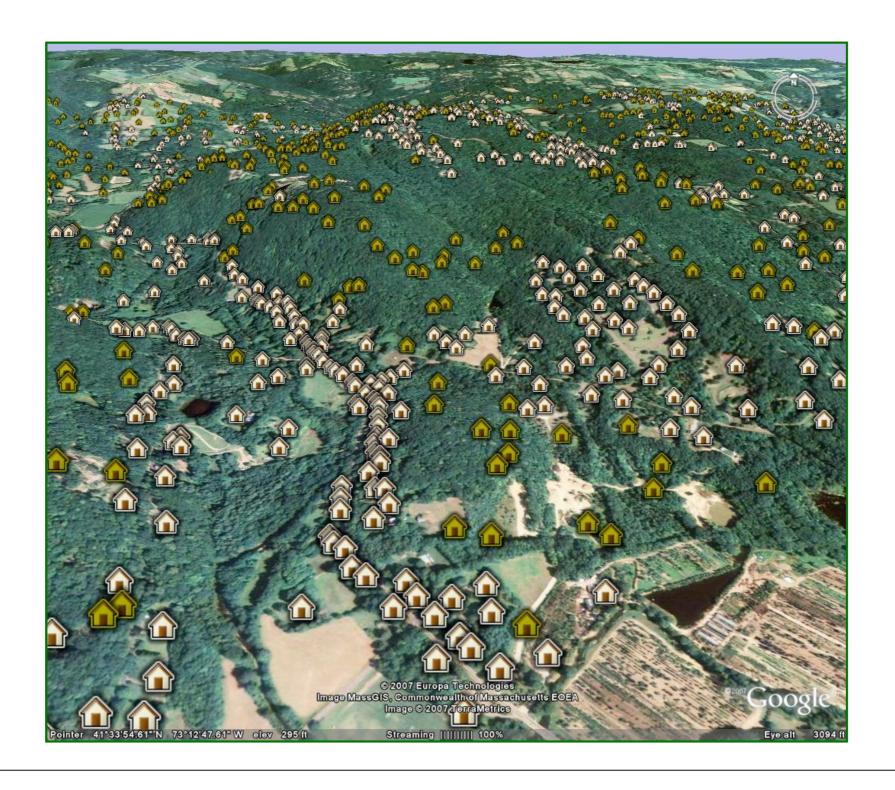
Assess Present

**Explore Future** 





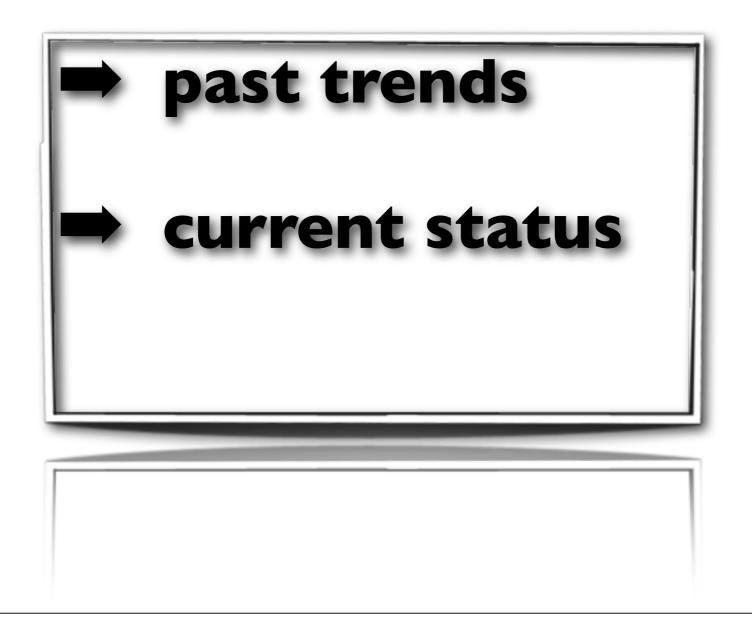




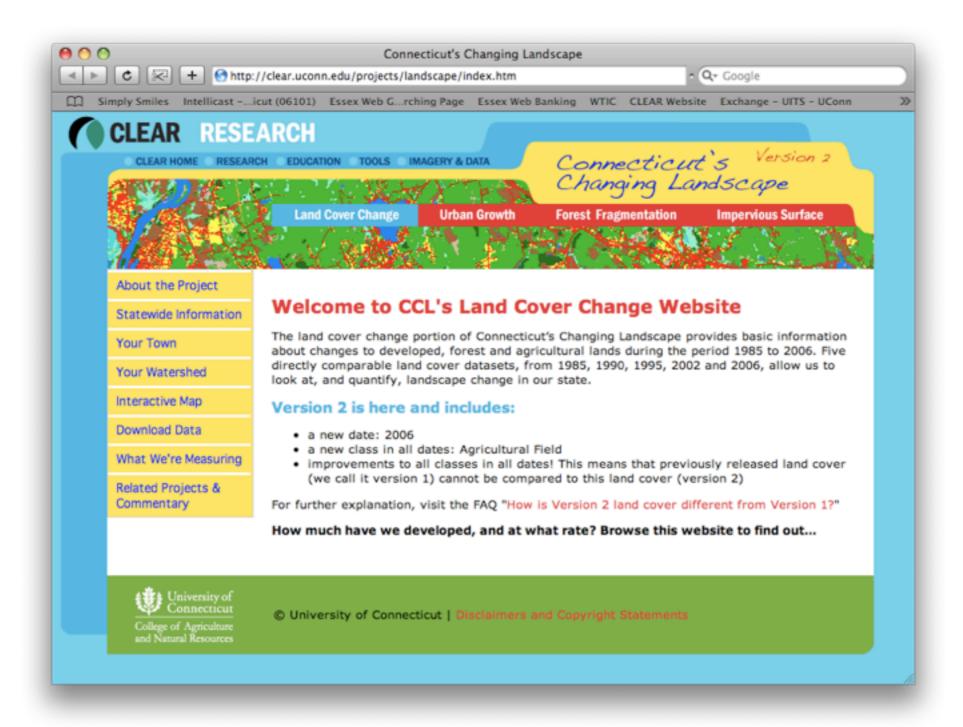
## The classic "buildout" analysis: showing potential impacts of current policies

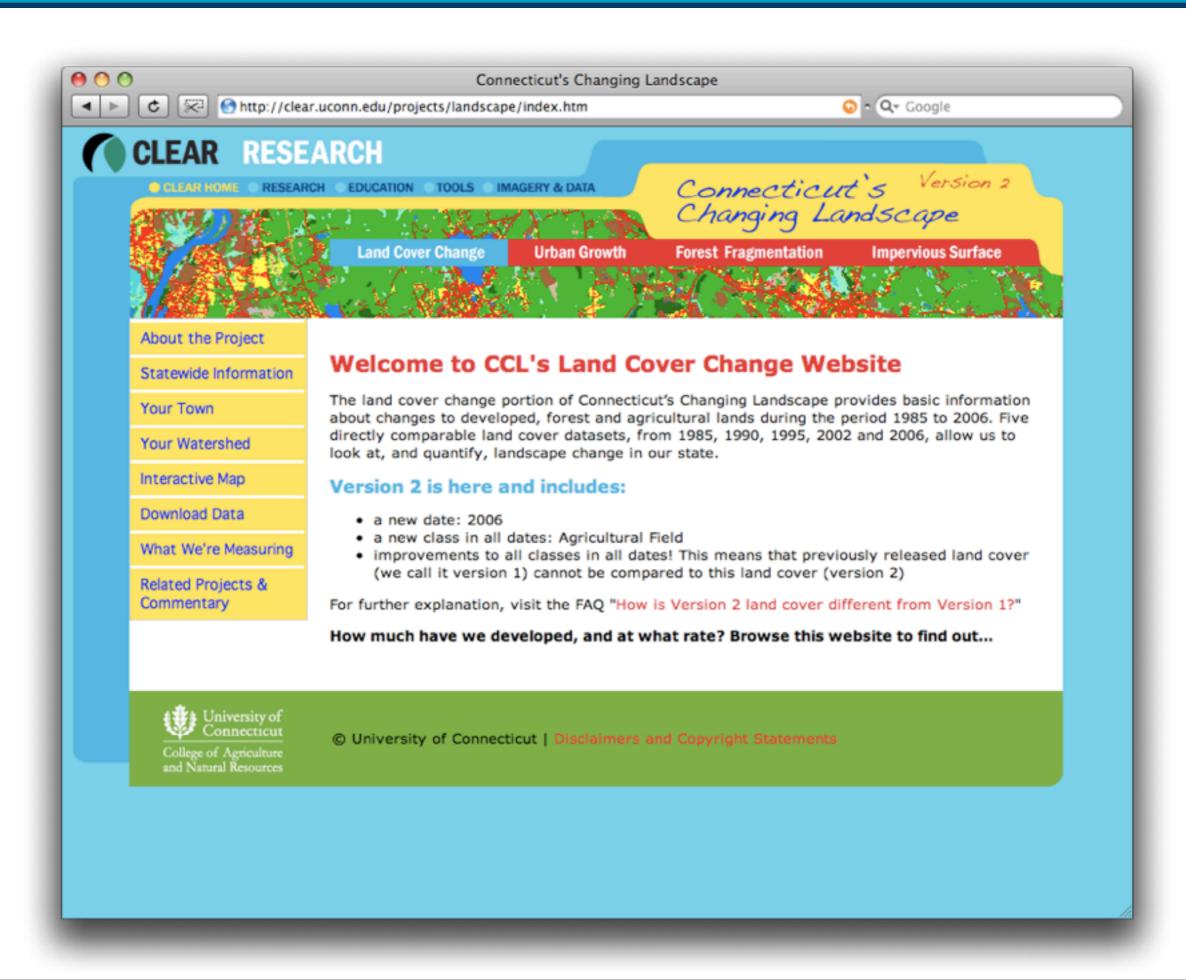


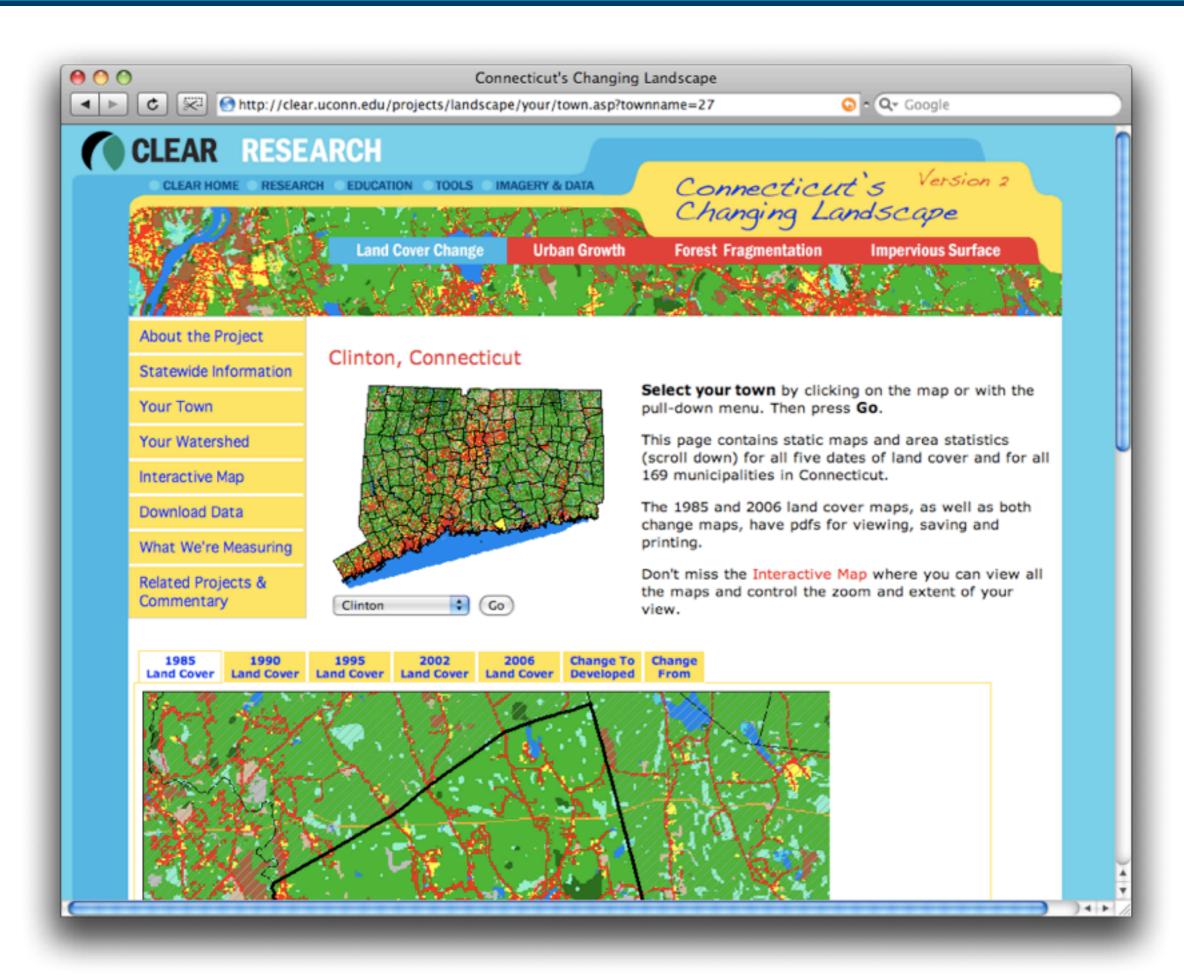
# Predictive tools are not the only ones that can inform & catalyze future land use policies

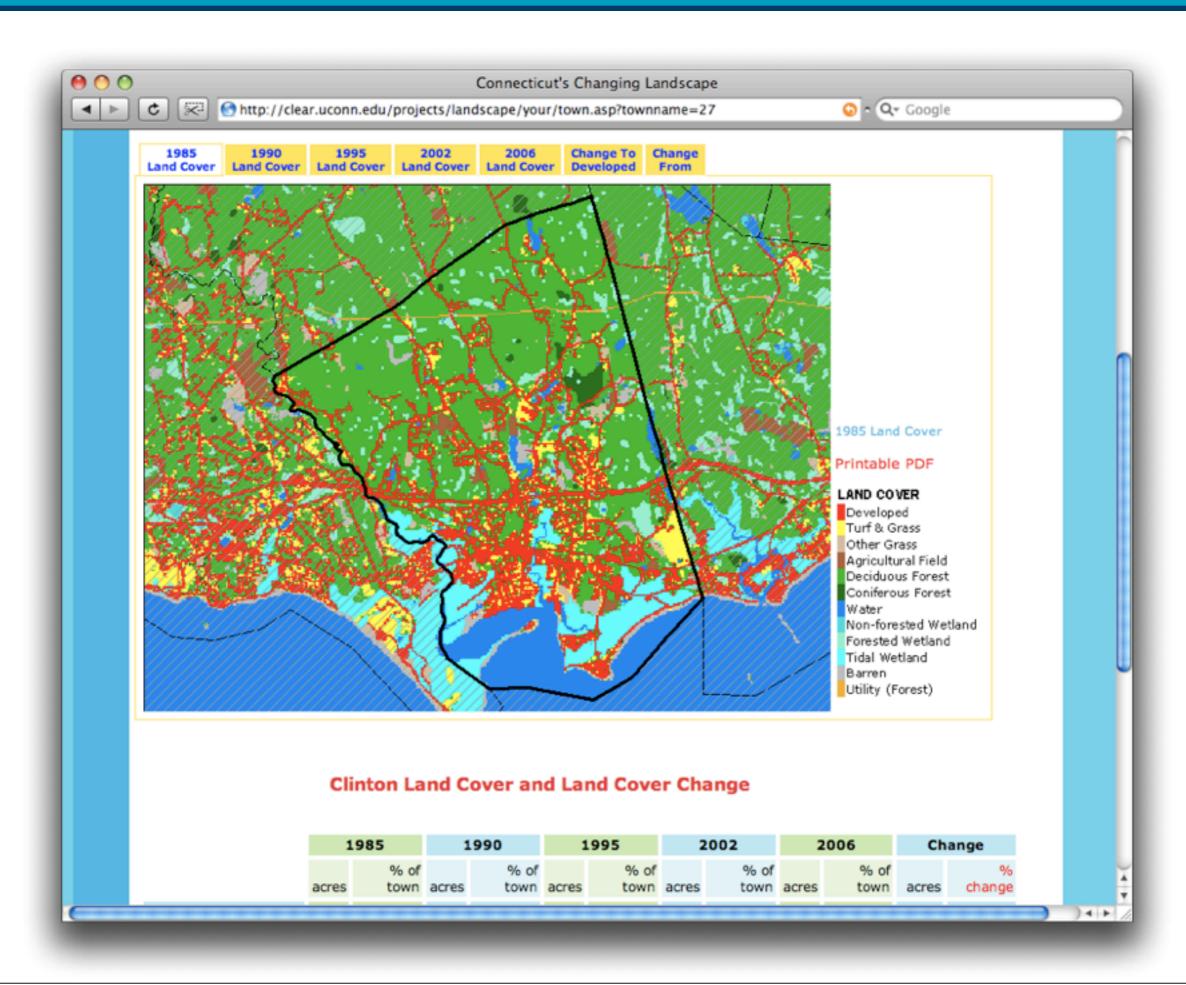


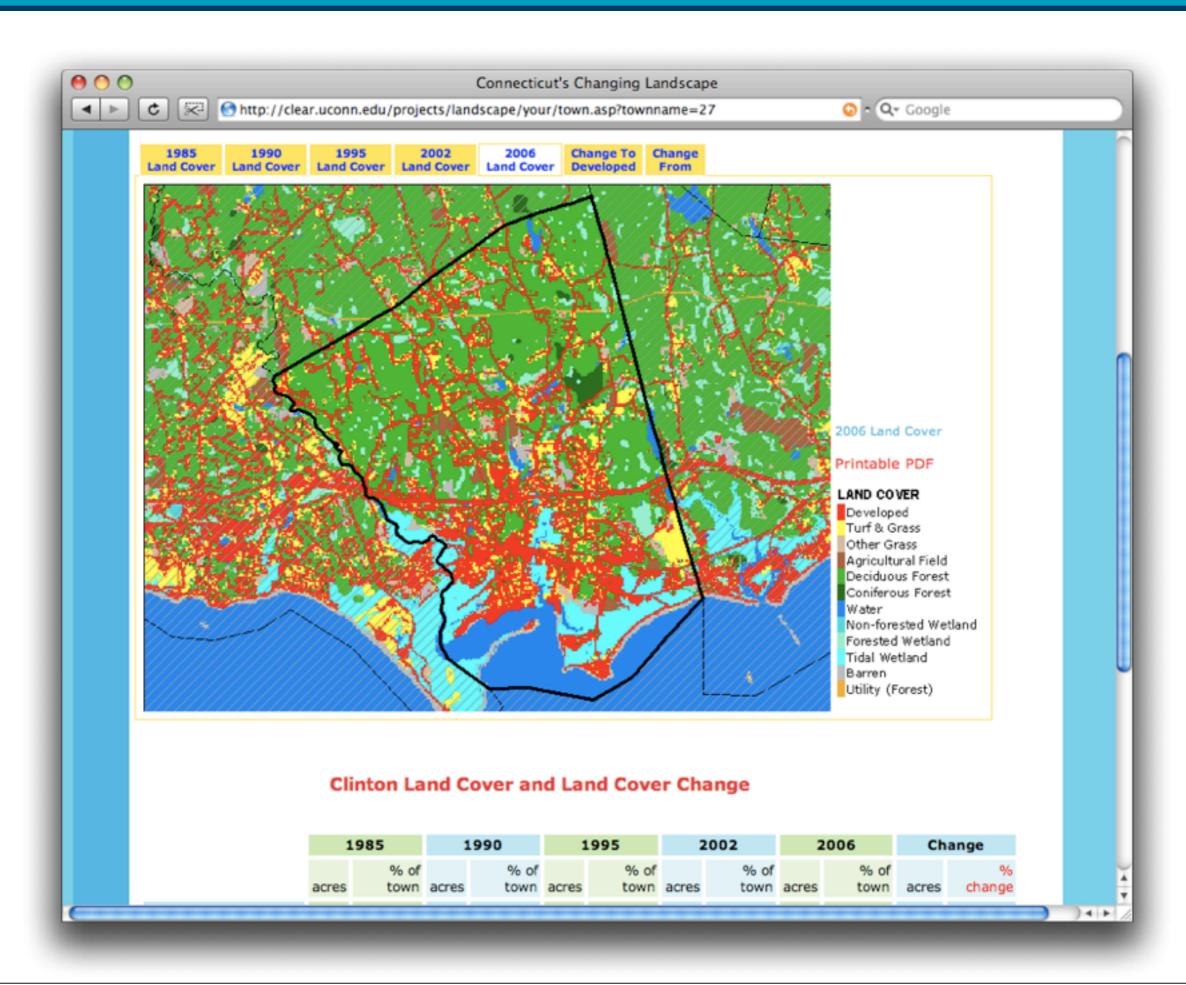
## Past trends can inform present day decisions that will shape future conditions

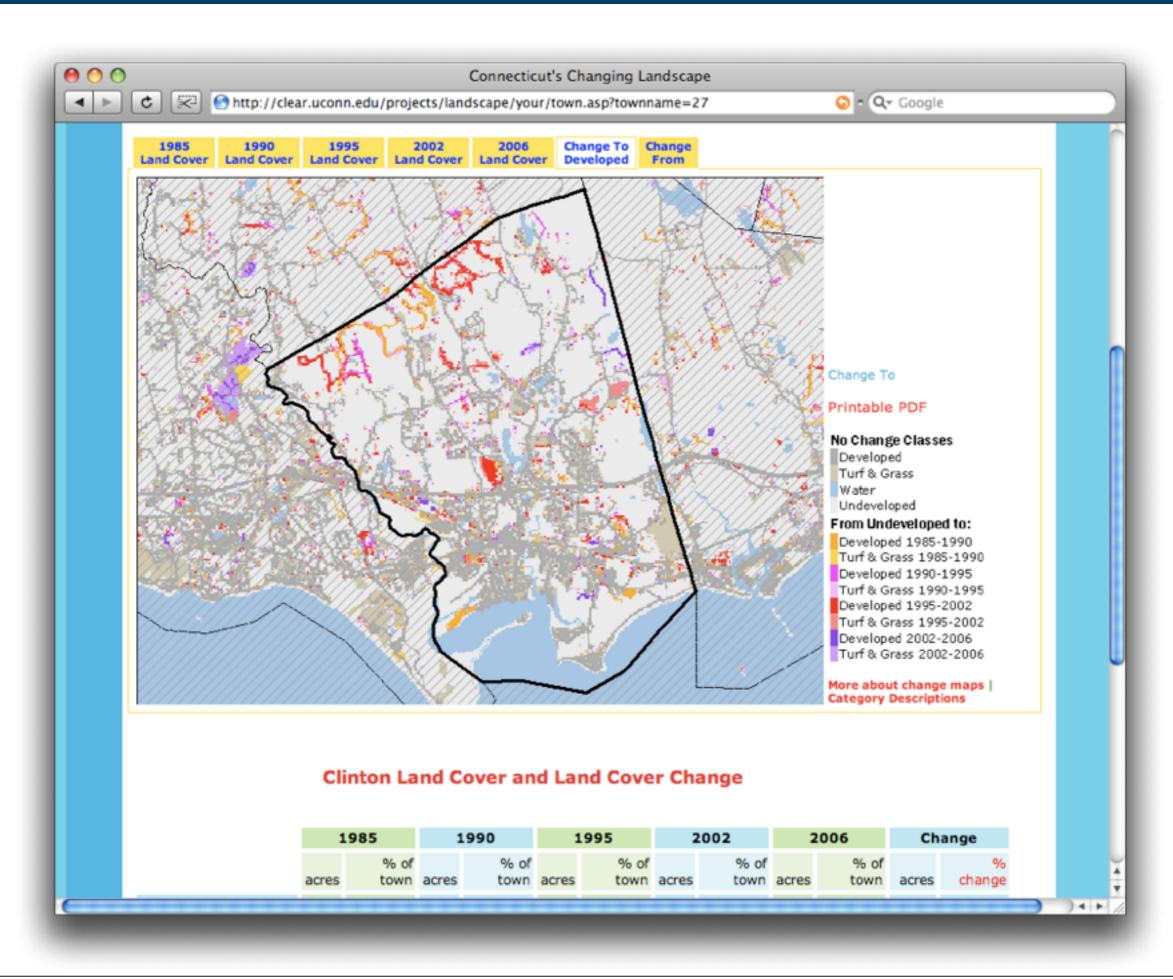


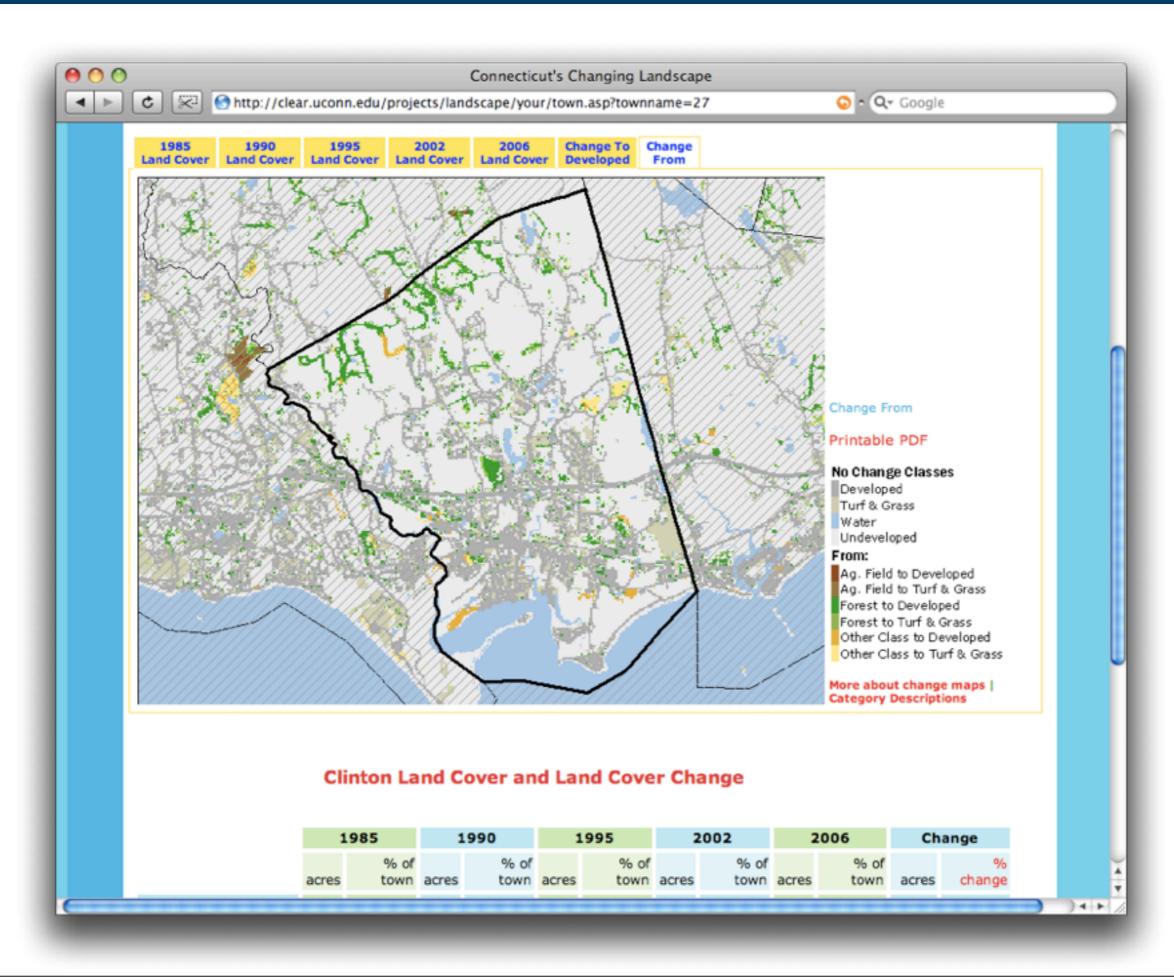


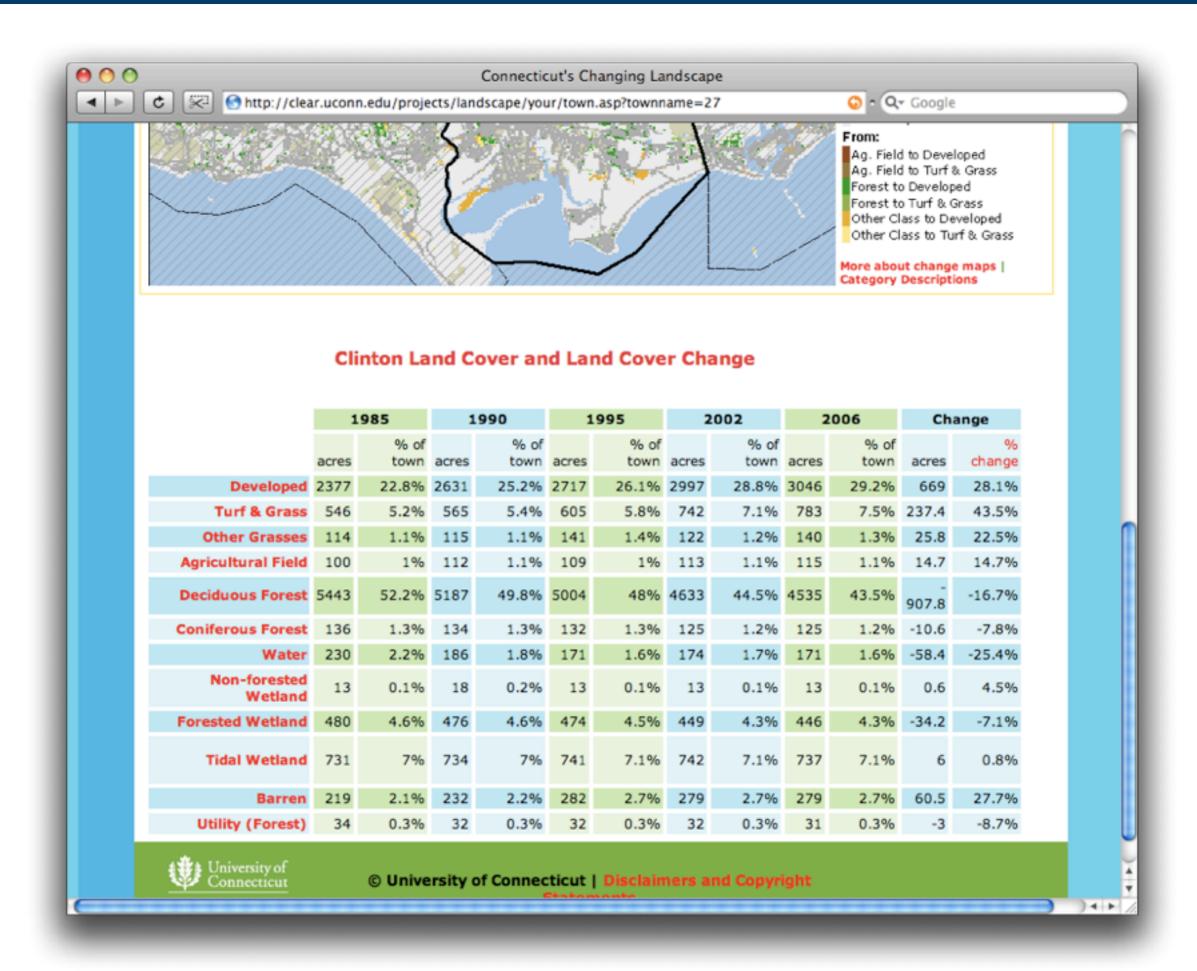




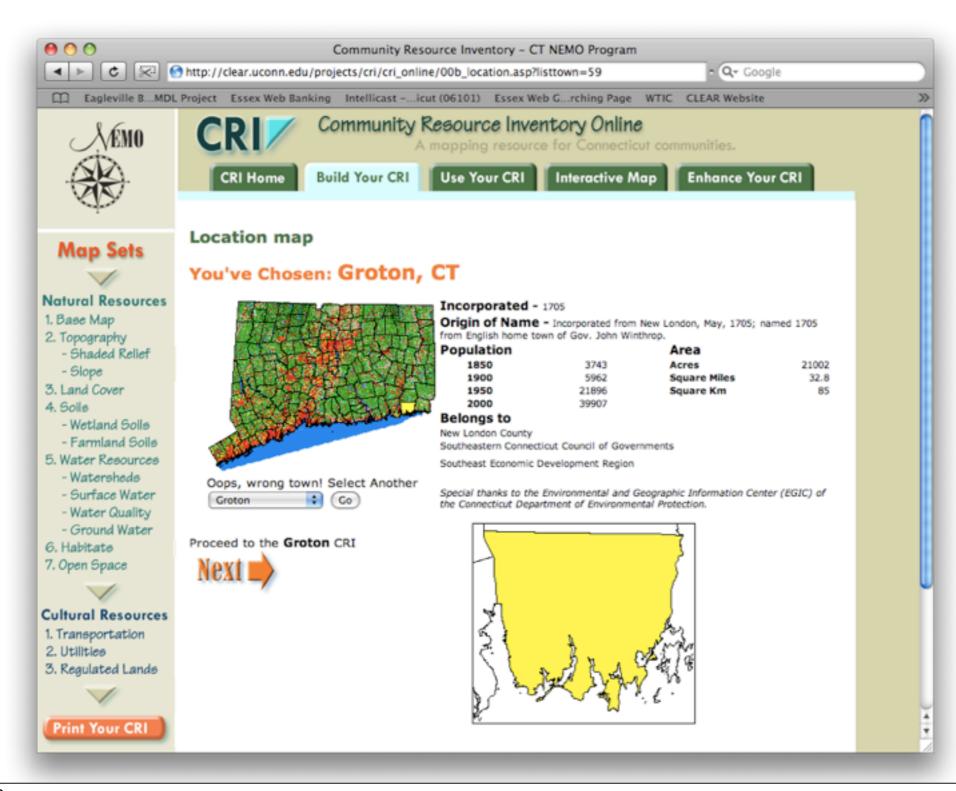


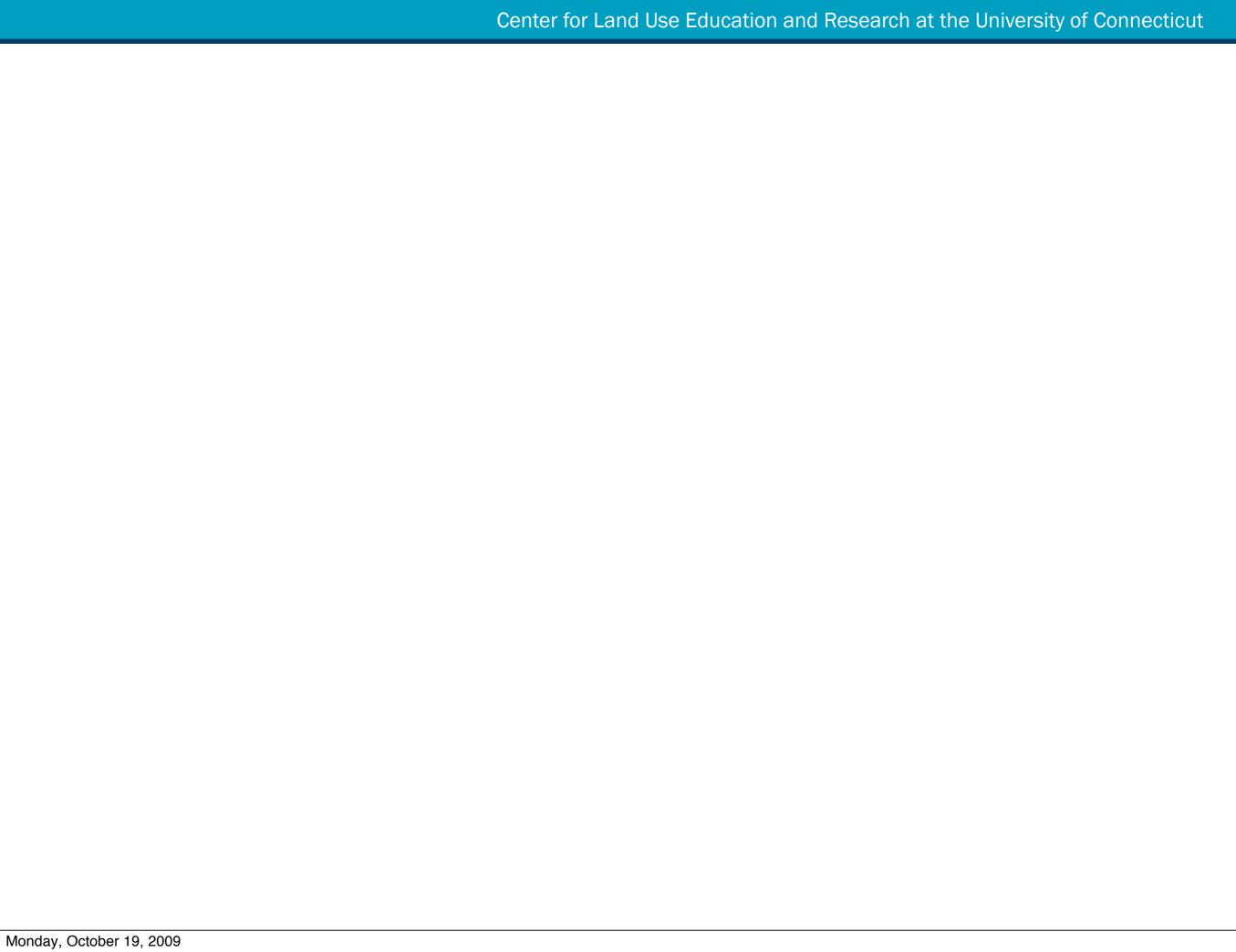






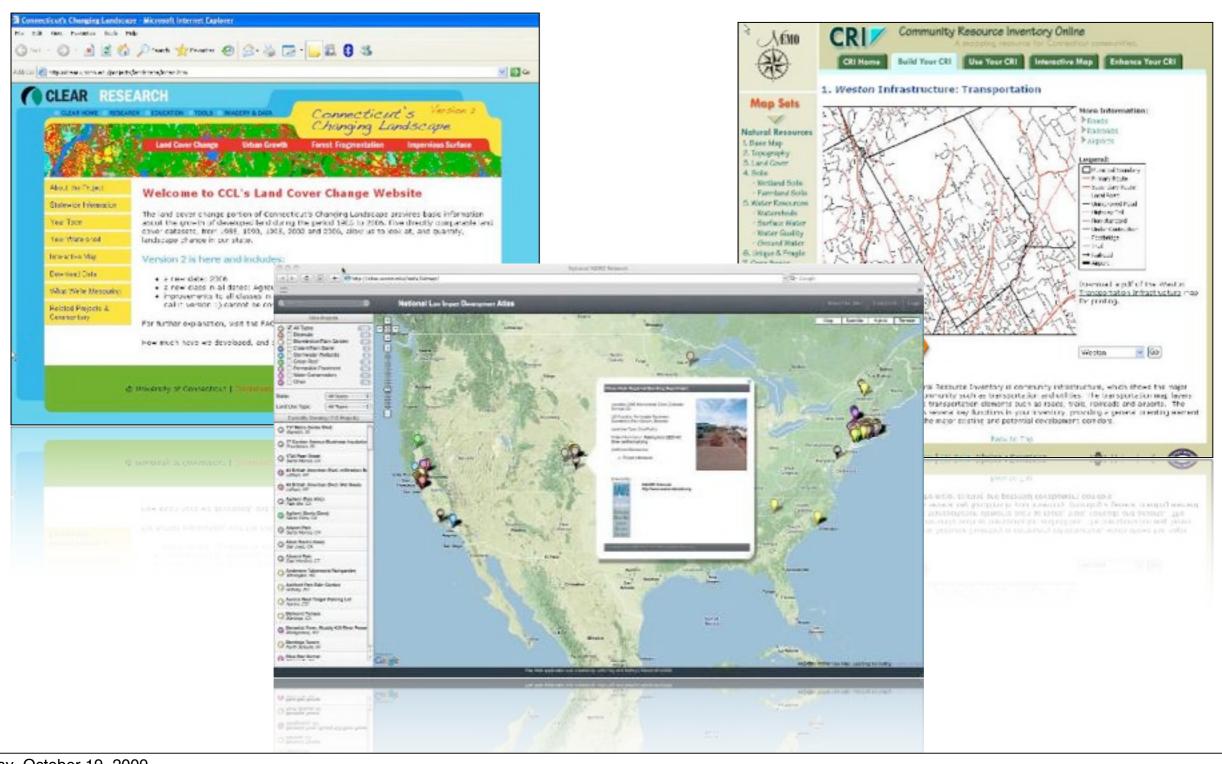
### Tools for "citizen planners" showing current status can also help chart the future



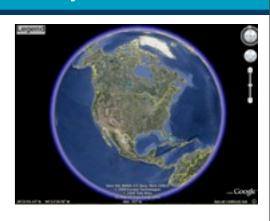




### Where we are today: Interactive geospatial tools on the web



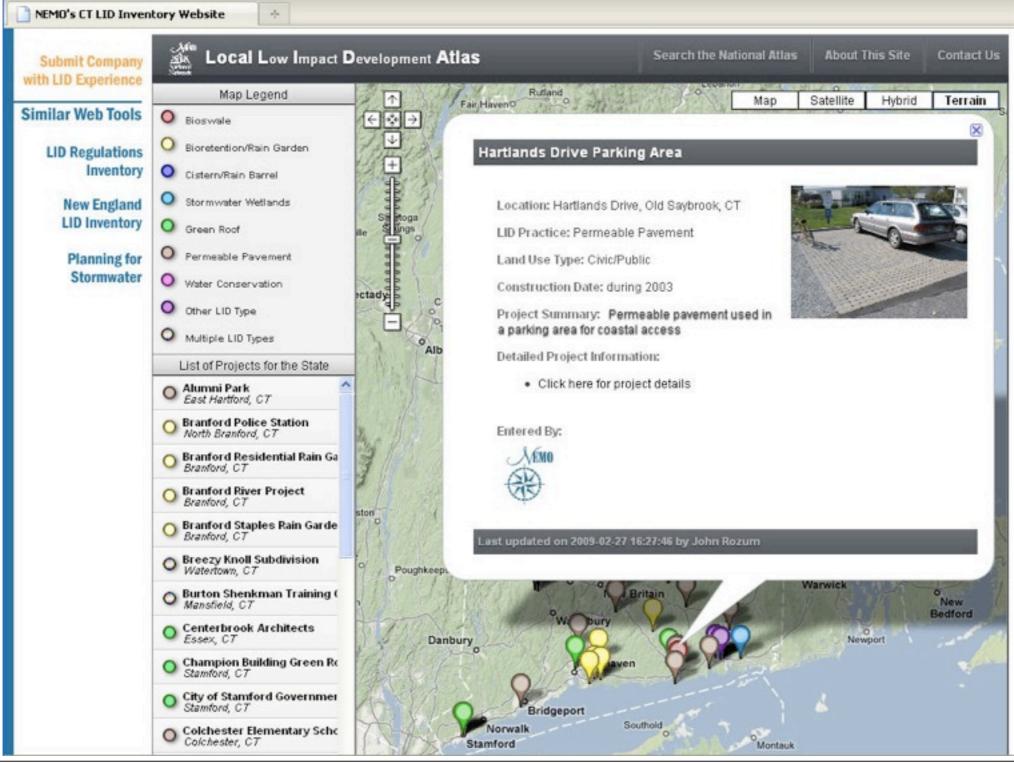
## Using Earth Browsers to convey information: the CT LID Inventory

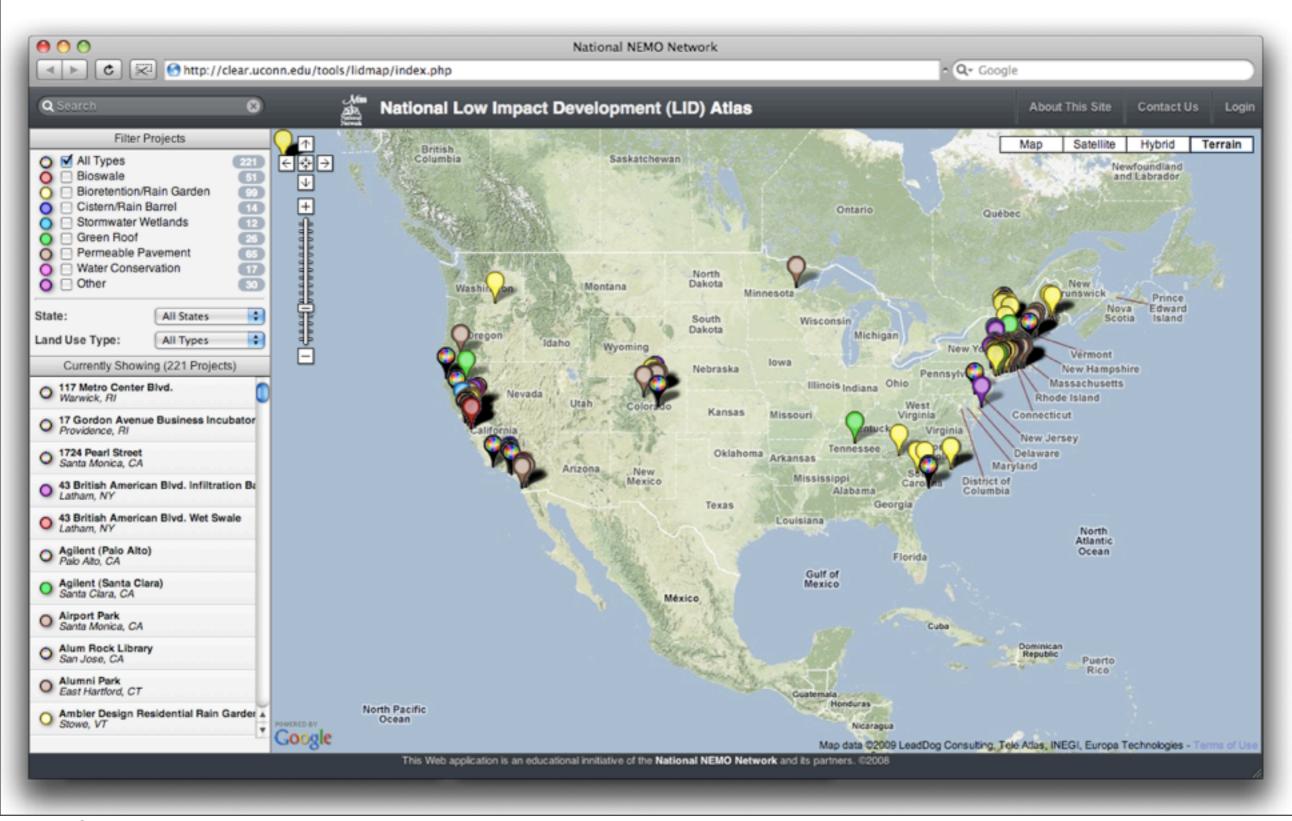


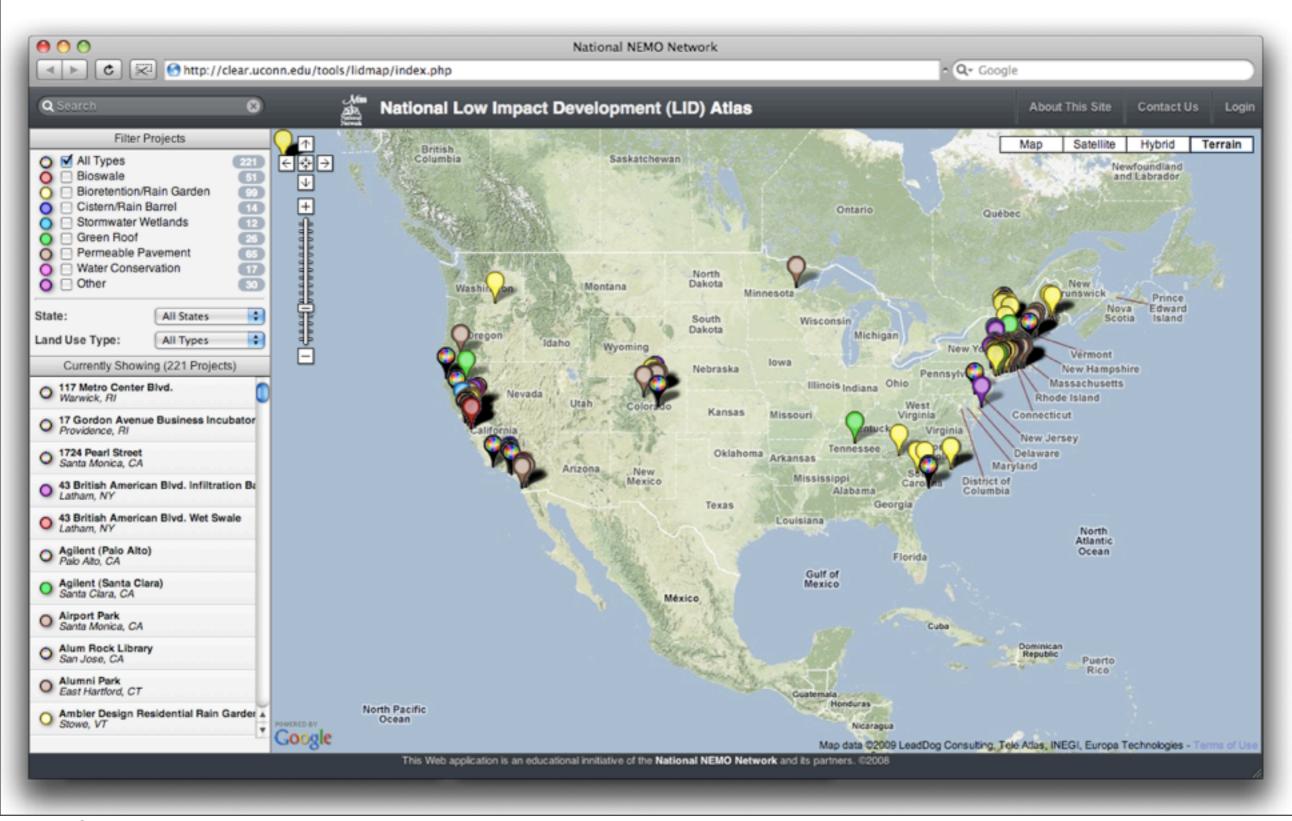


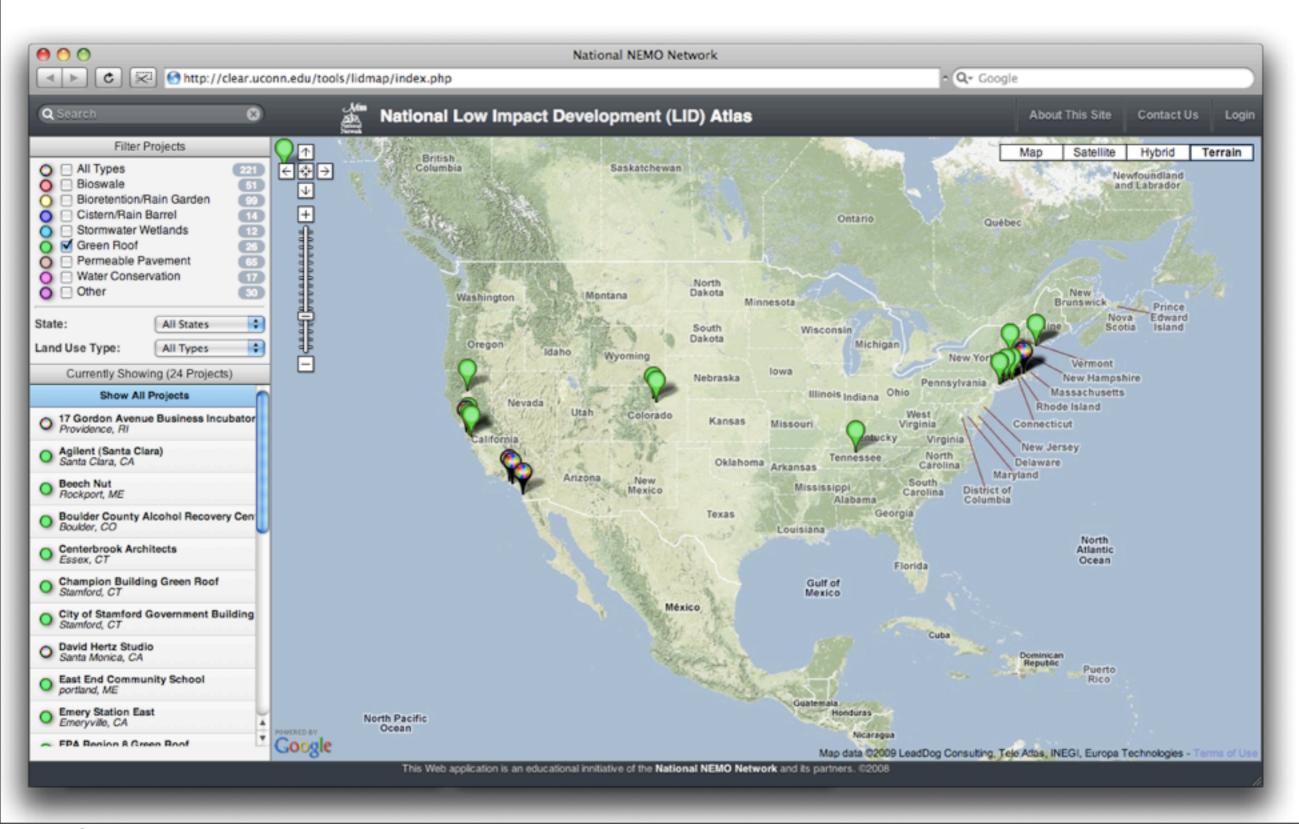
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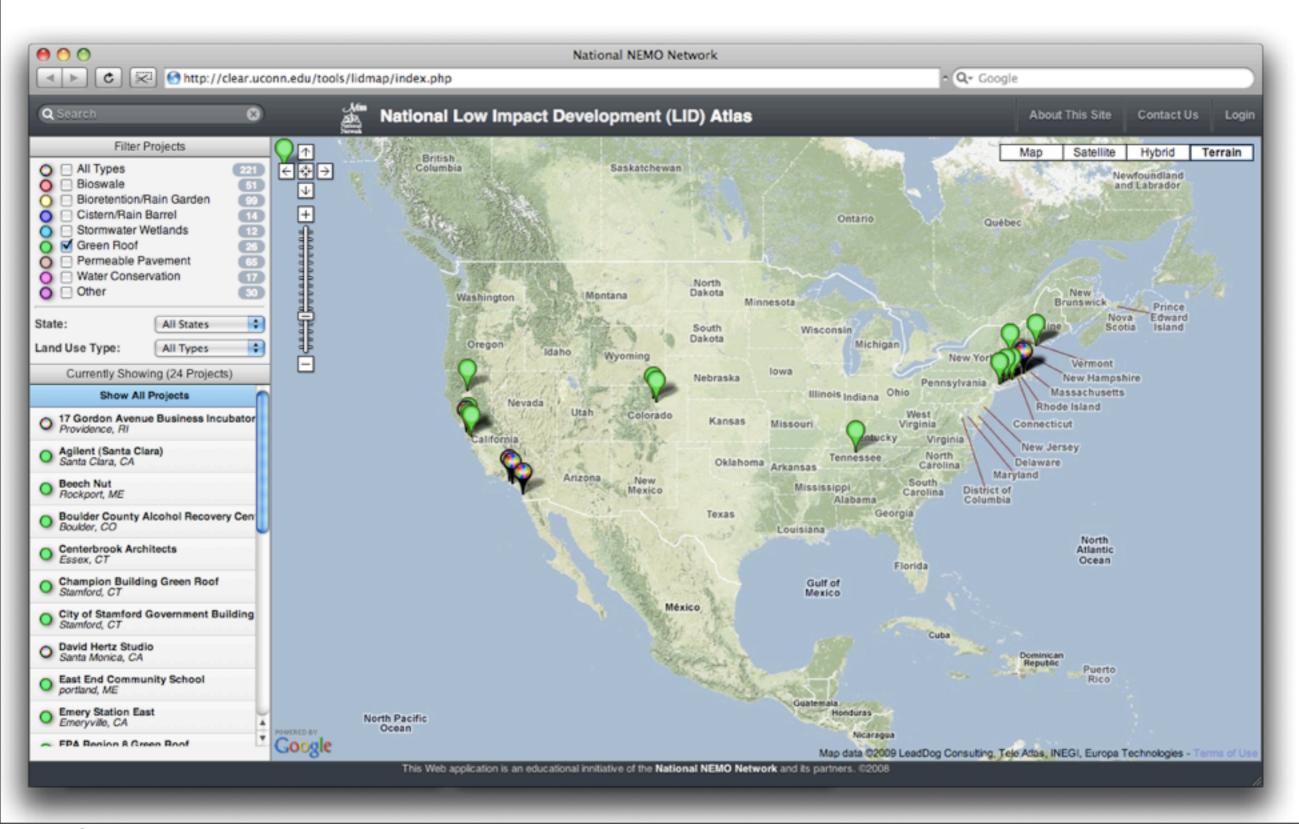


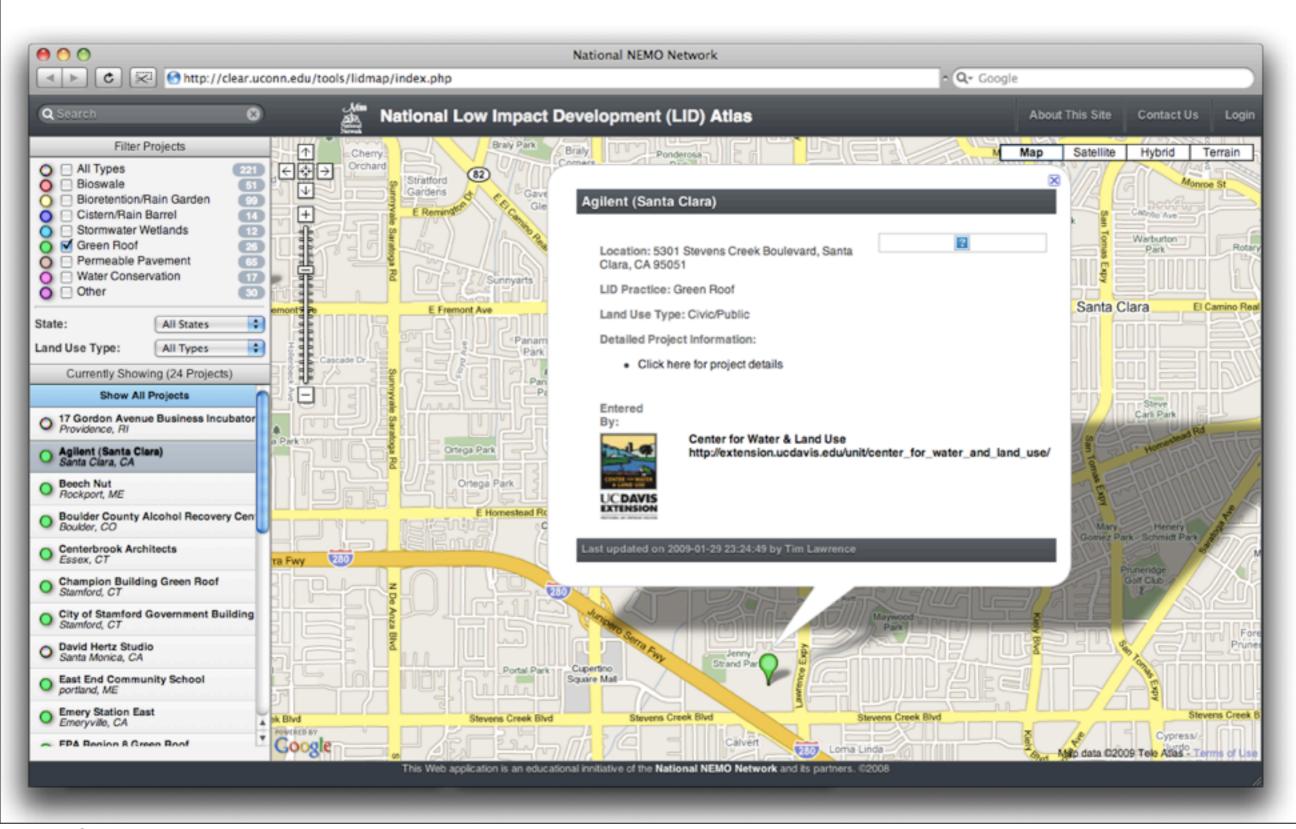


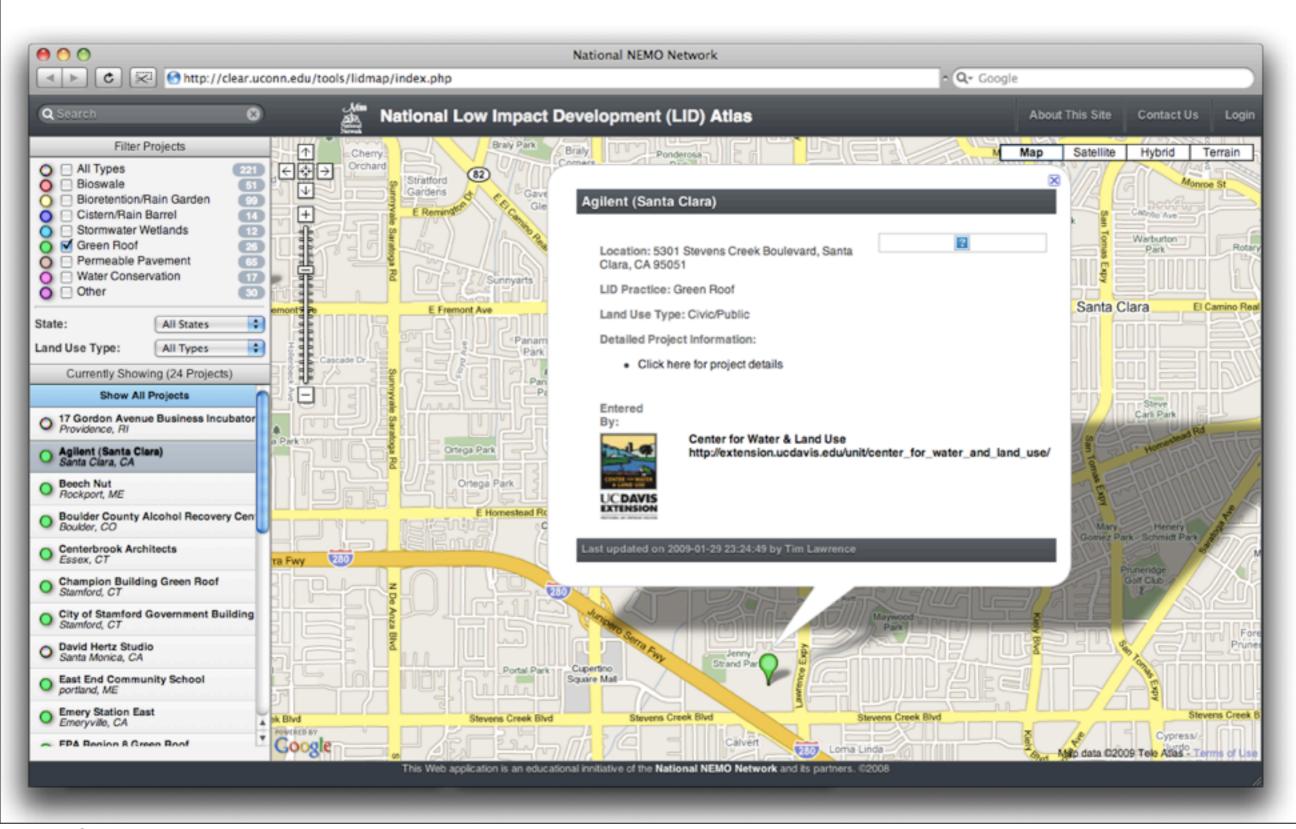


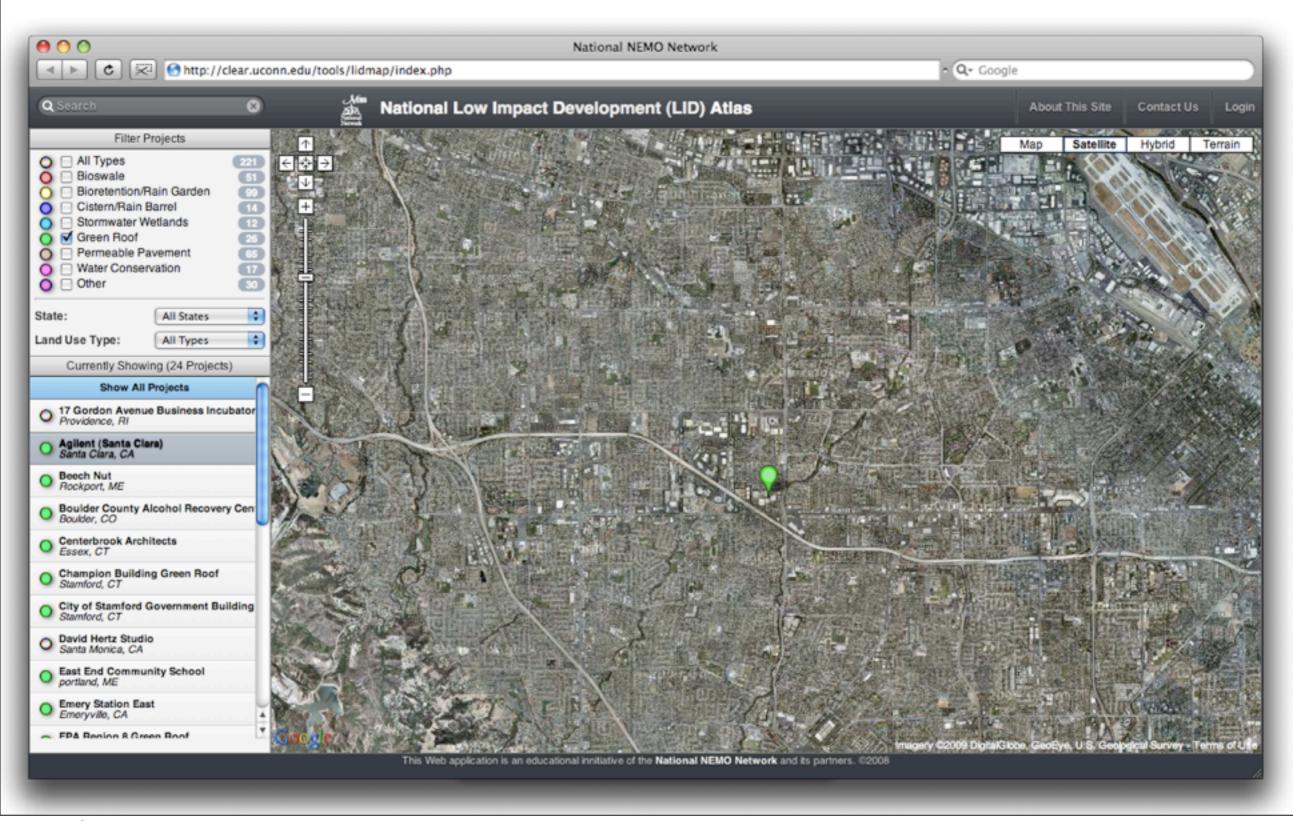


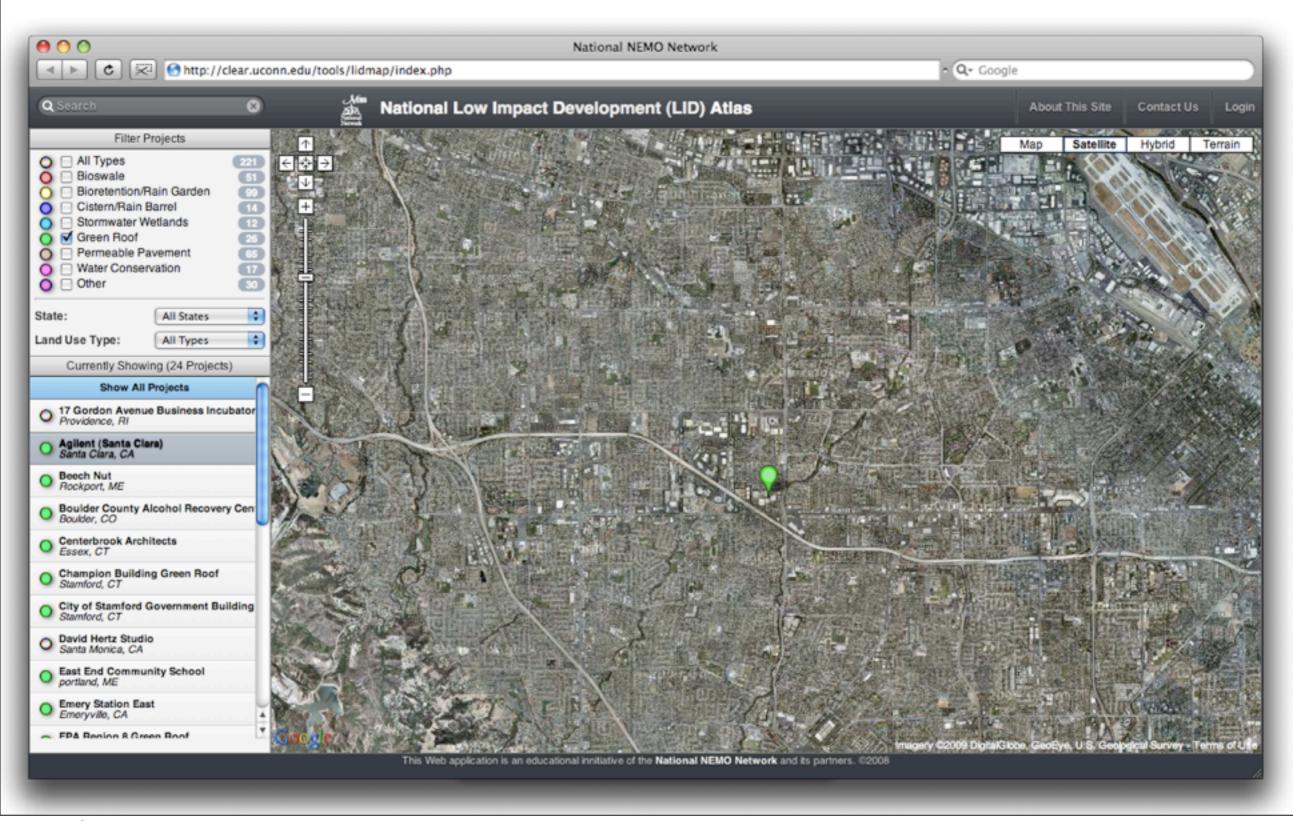


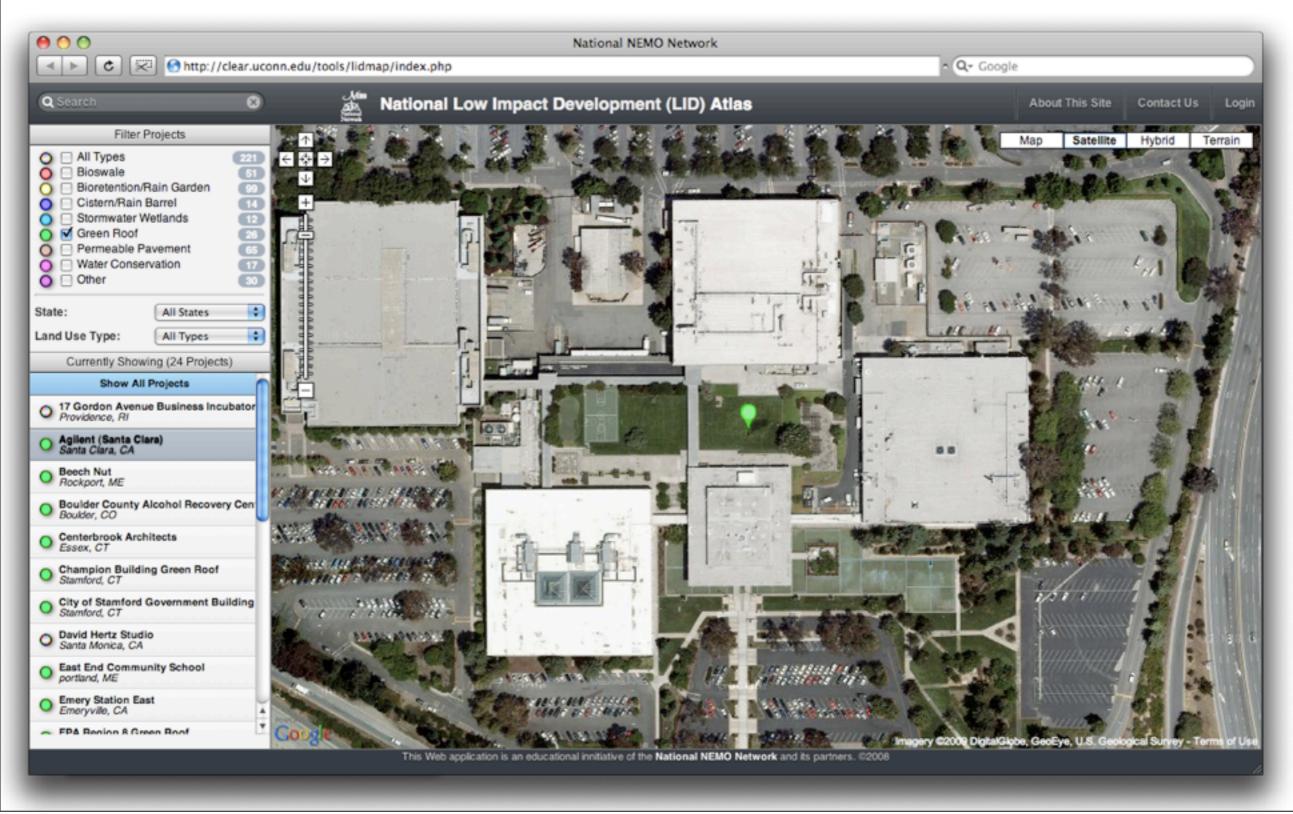


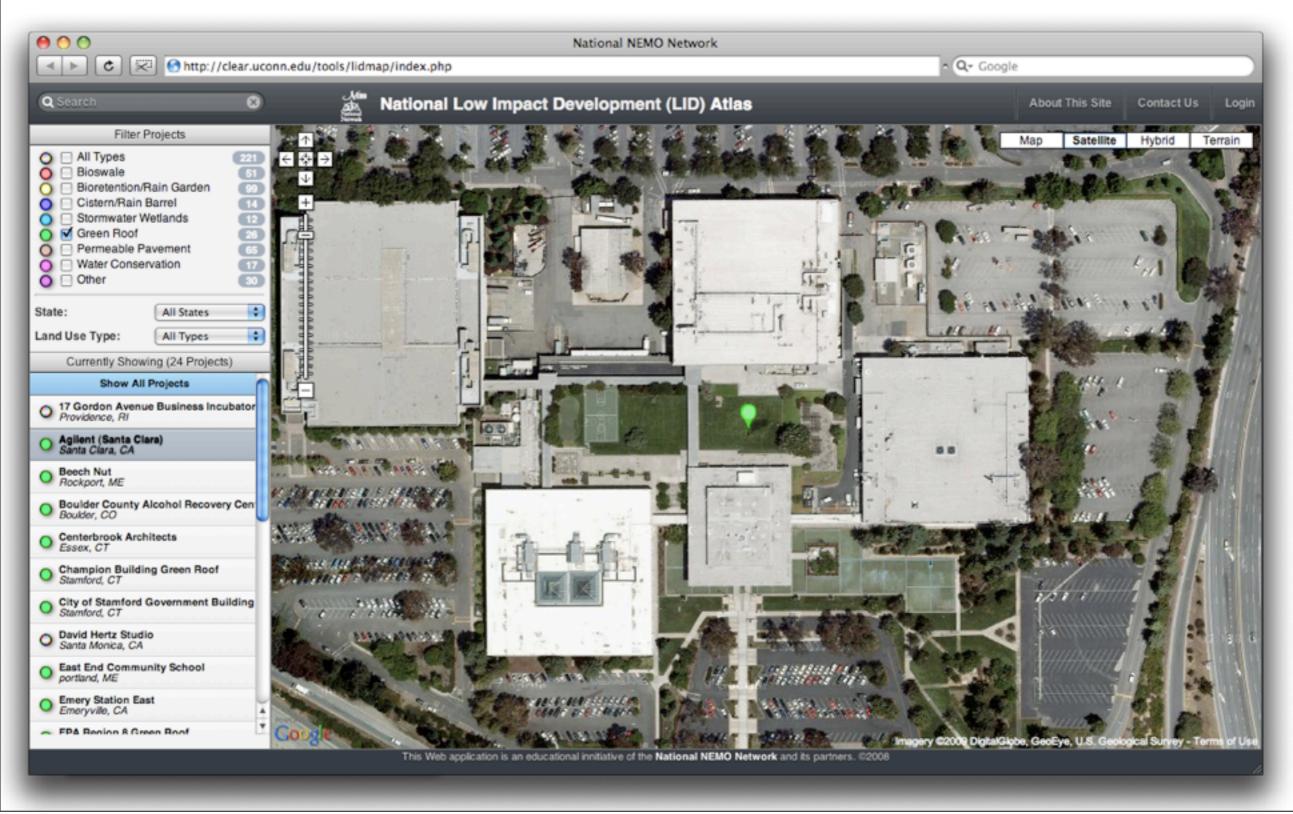




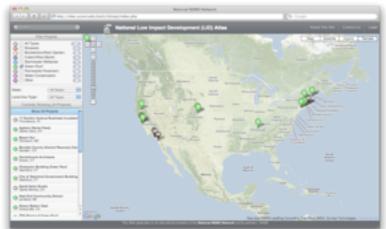


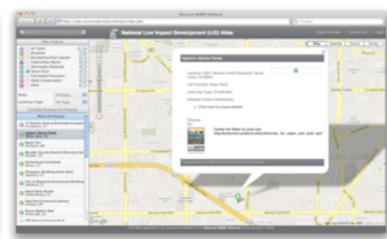


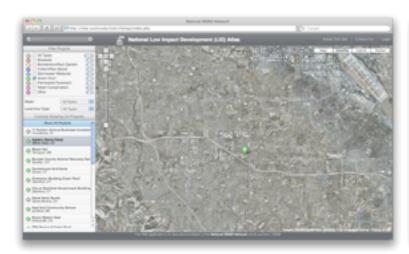




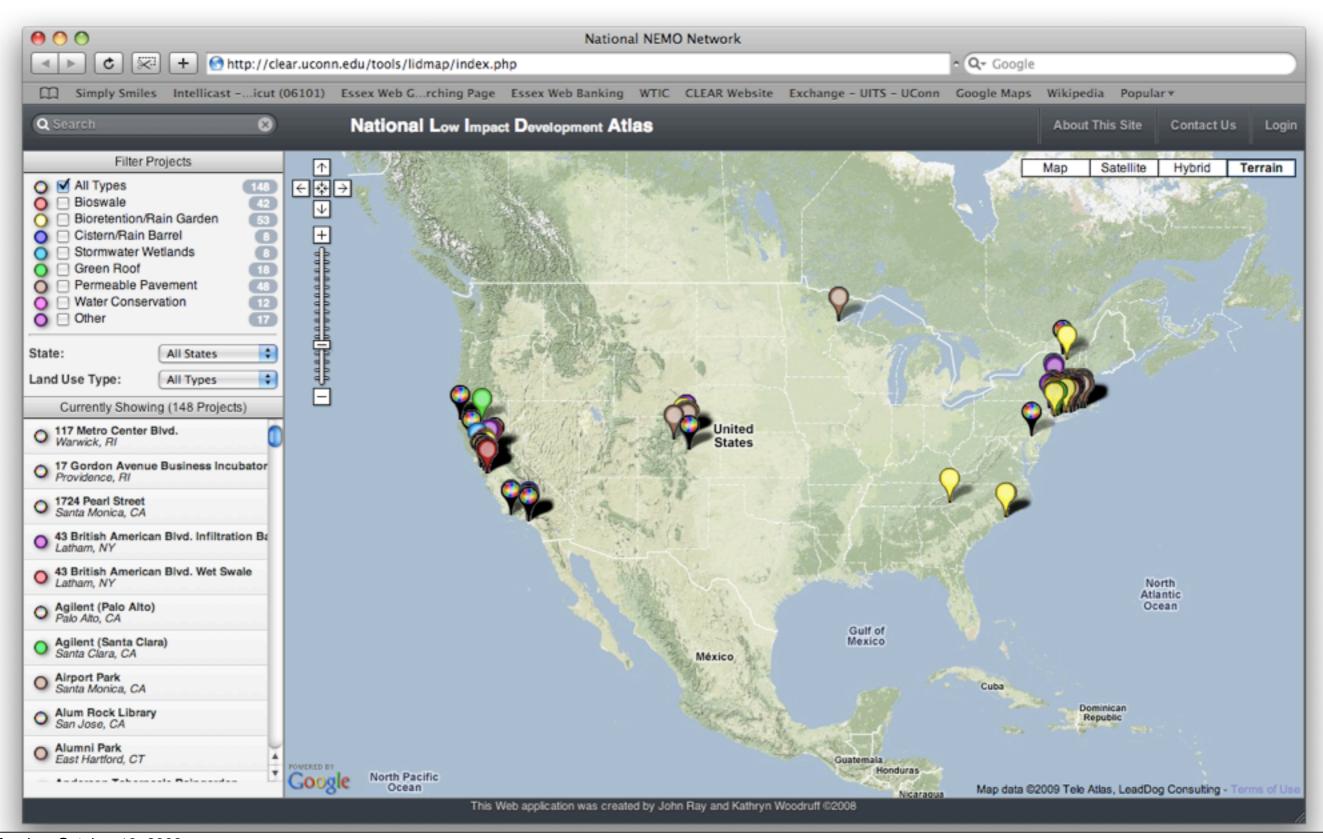


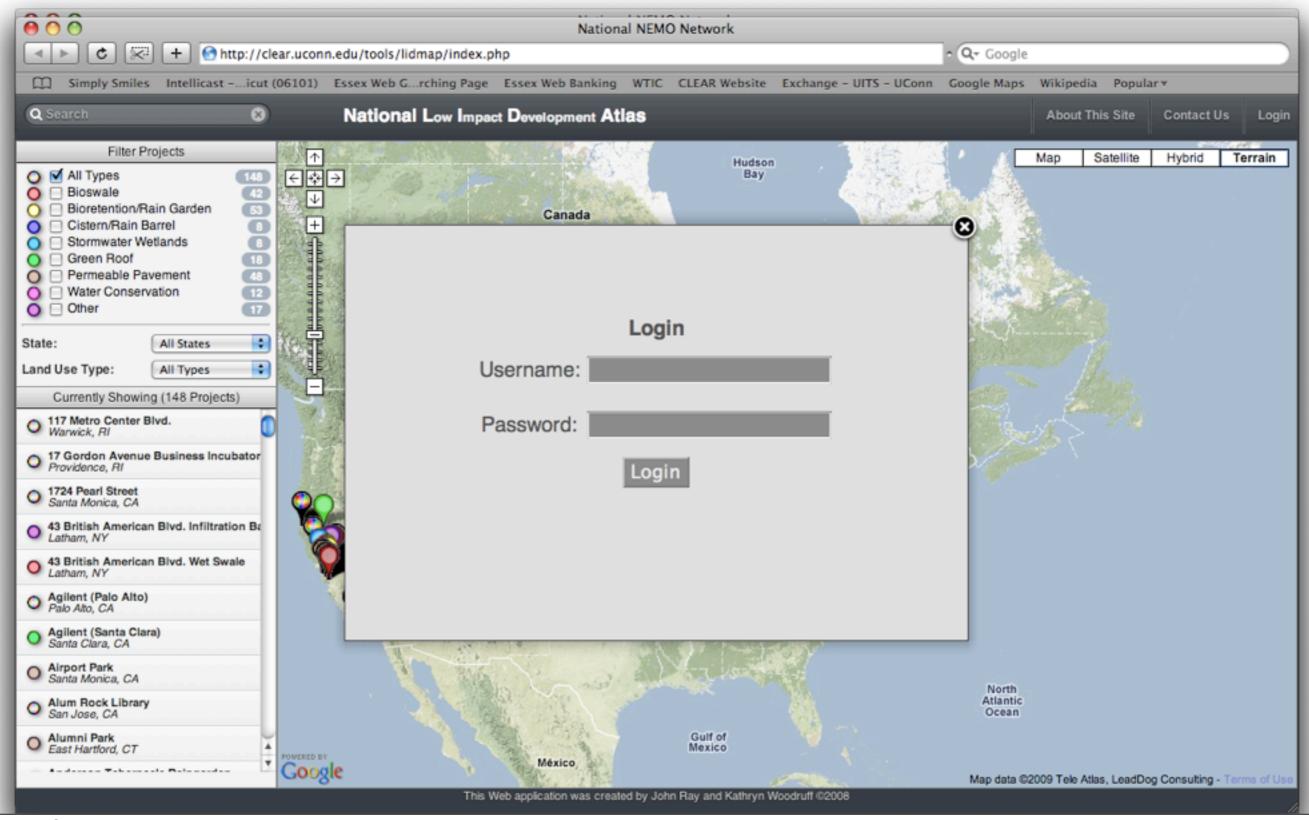










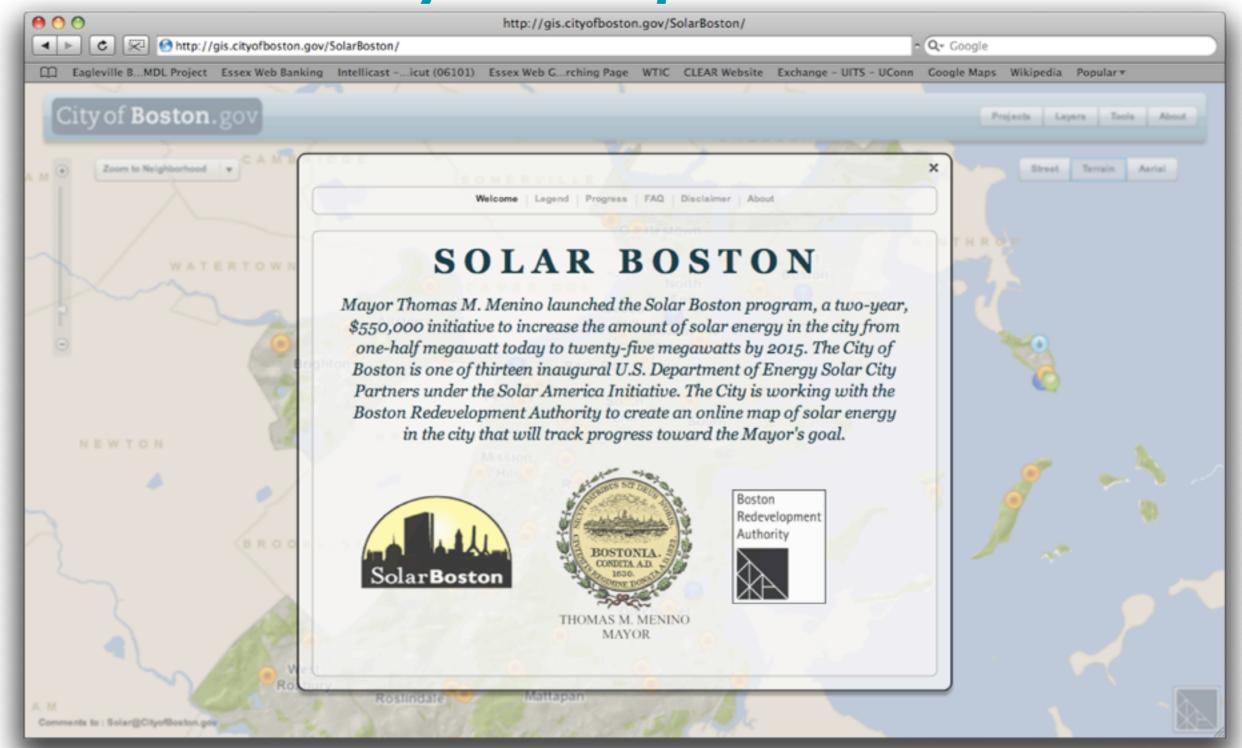


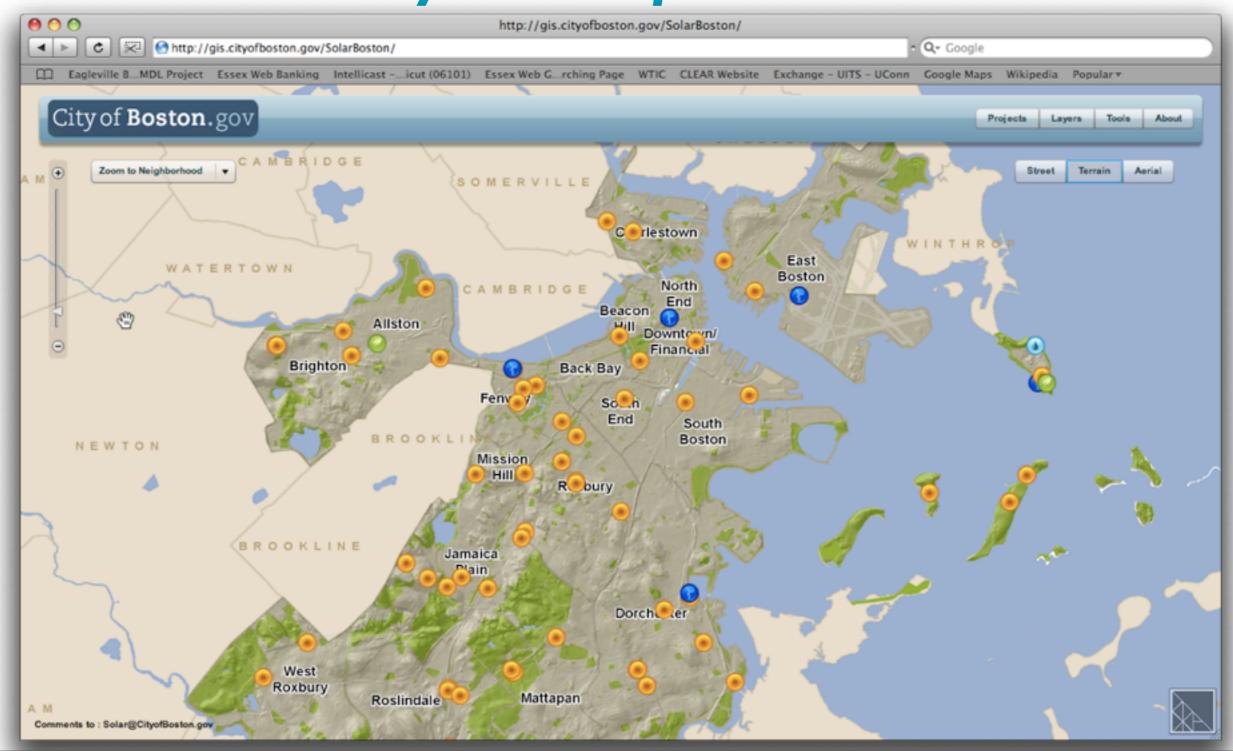
### Putting Maps & Data on the Web Using "Mash-up" Tecnology with GoogleMaps and GoogleEarth

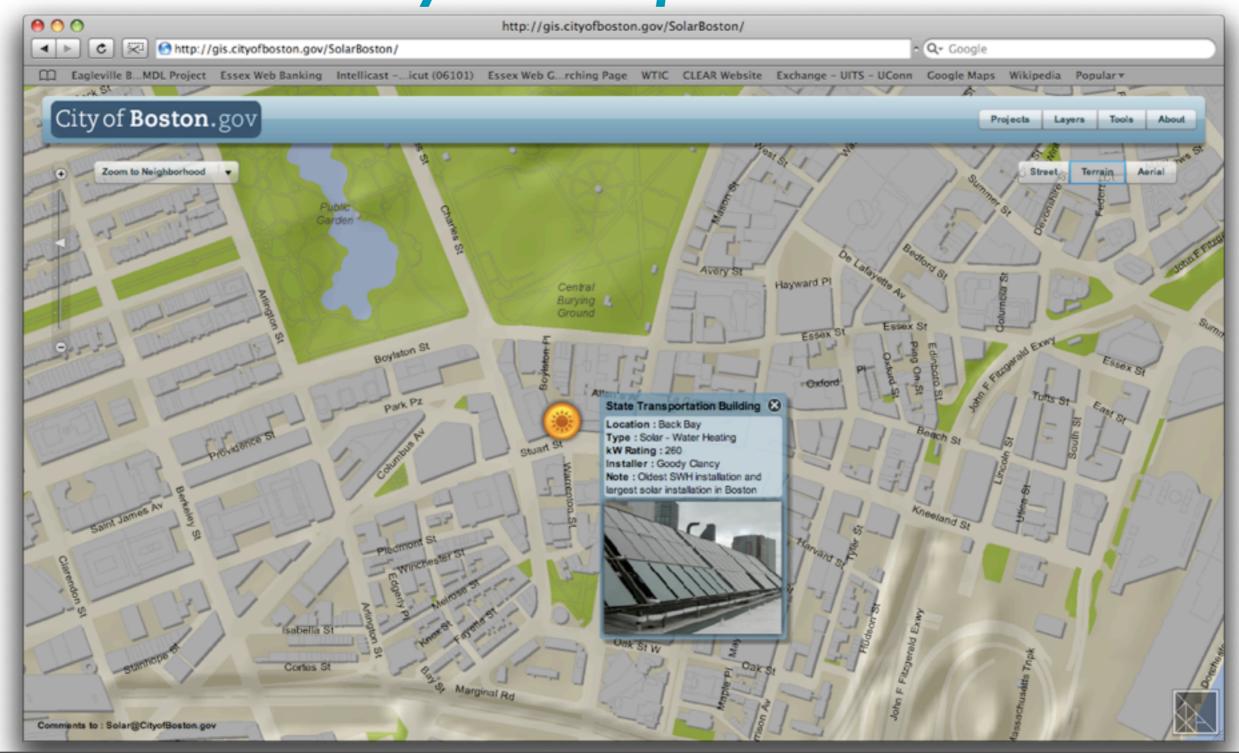
(coming to a national Land/Sea Grant water quality conference near you soon...)

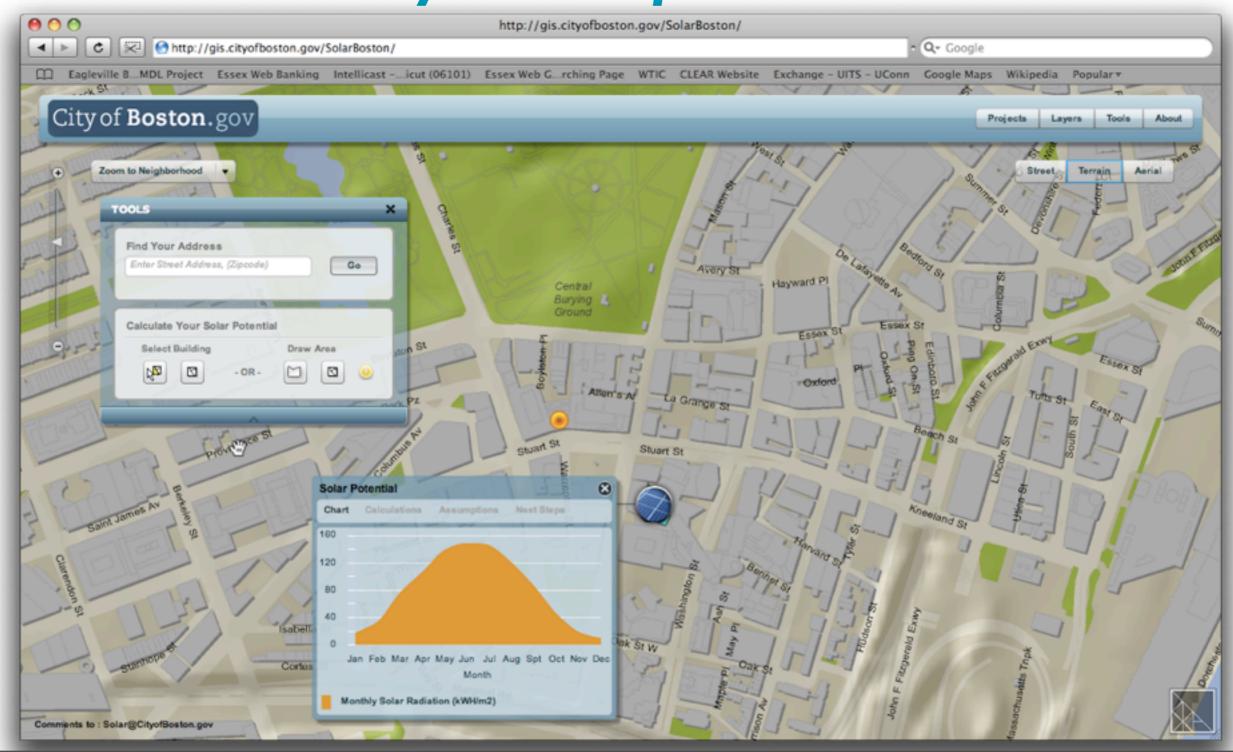


Monday, October 19, 2009



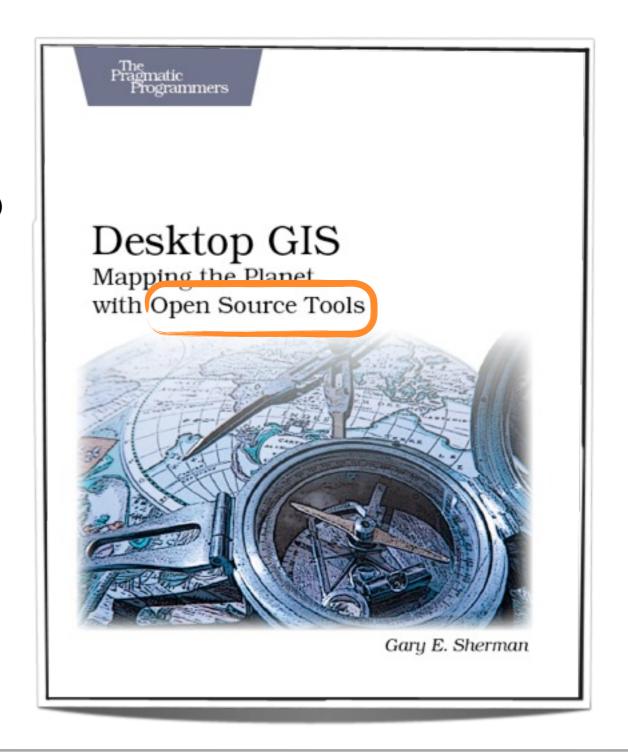






And there's other stuff I'm equally unqualified to talk about...

This is an incredibly rapidly-changing field.

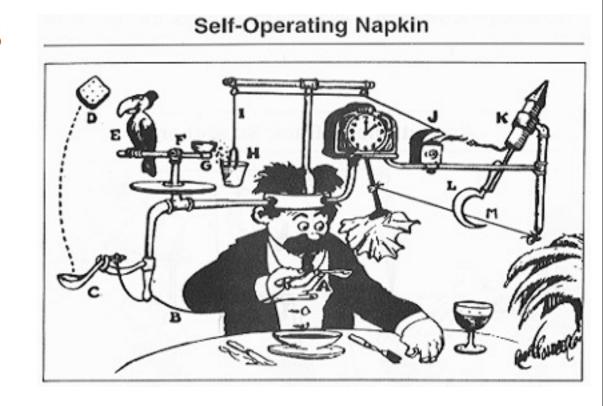






#### Today's Tour de Force to include....

- Communities as the target audience
- The evolution of geospatial technologies & decision support
- Deep thoughts, with examples







## I. If you build it, and it's not relevant, they won't come.



It's Thursday night at 9:45 pm, and it's subdivision approval time...

Do you know where your techno tool is?

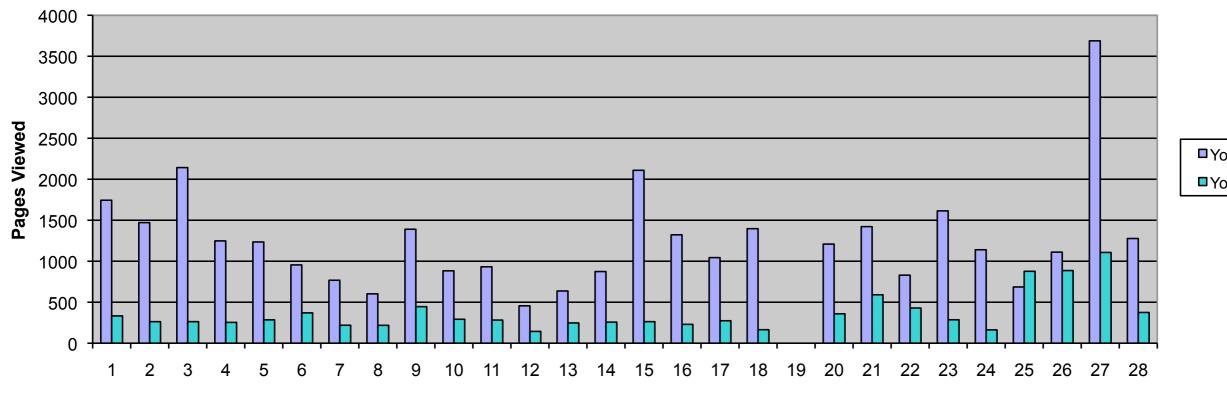








#### **Land Cover Maps**

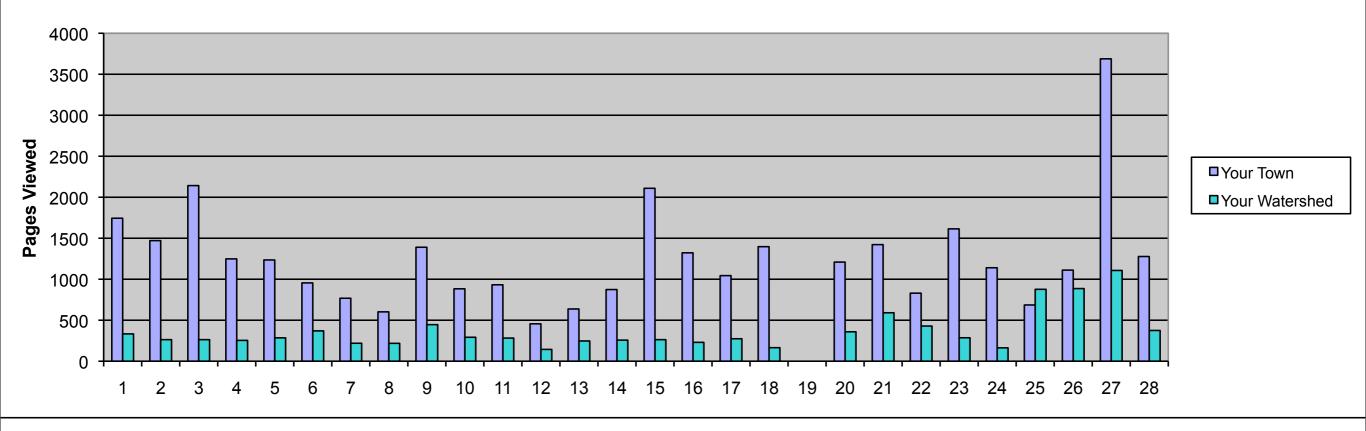


■Your Town
■Your Watershed

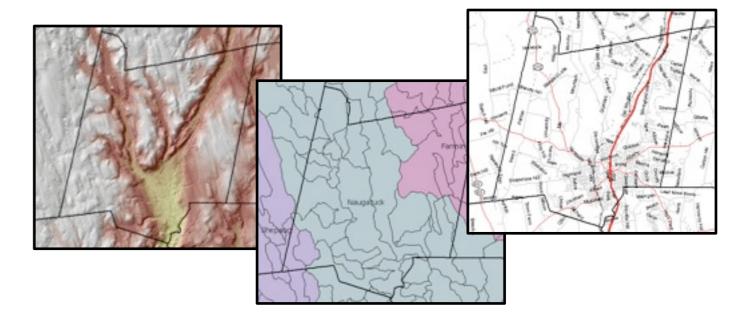


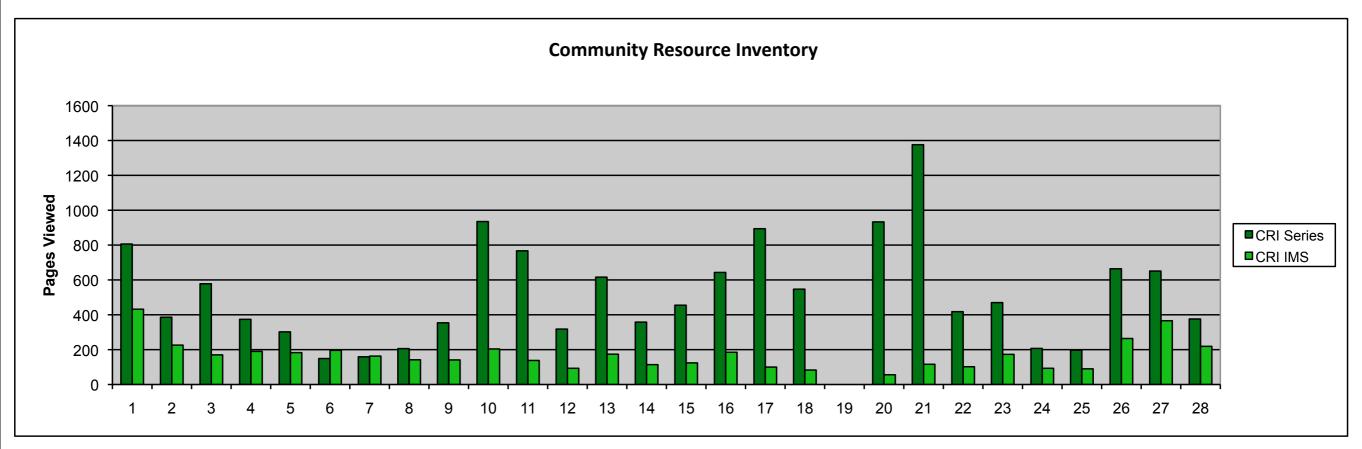


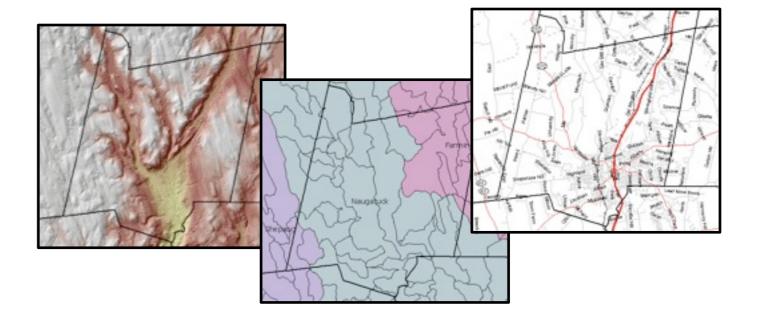
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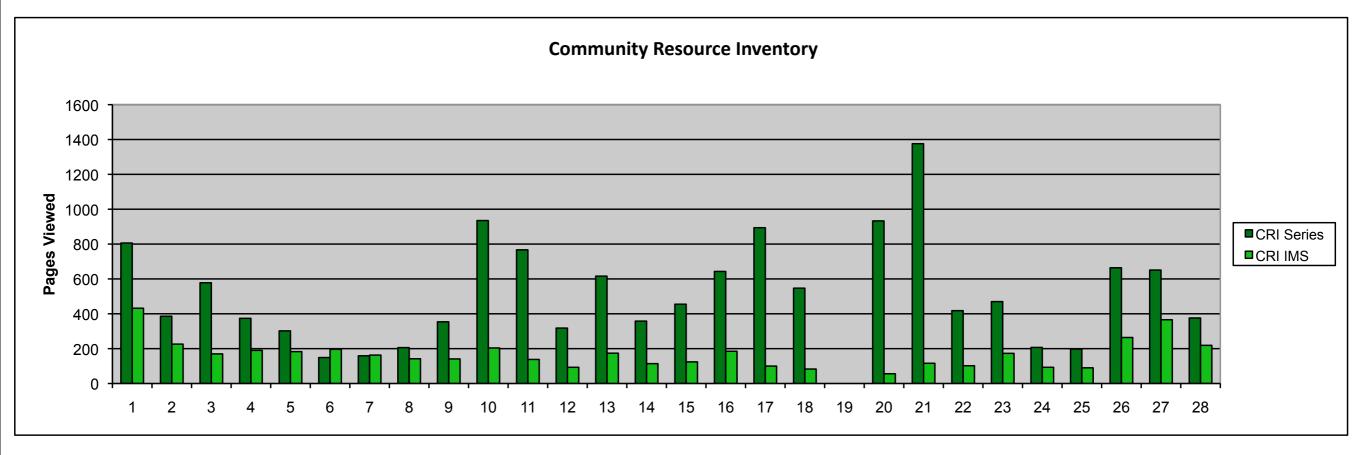


Information packaged by town is still the most popular by far (in CT)









Basic static maps are more popular that interactive mapping by far (in CT)

## "Franchising" the Online CRI



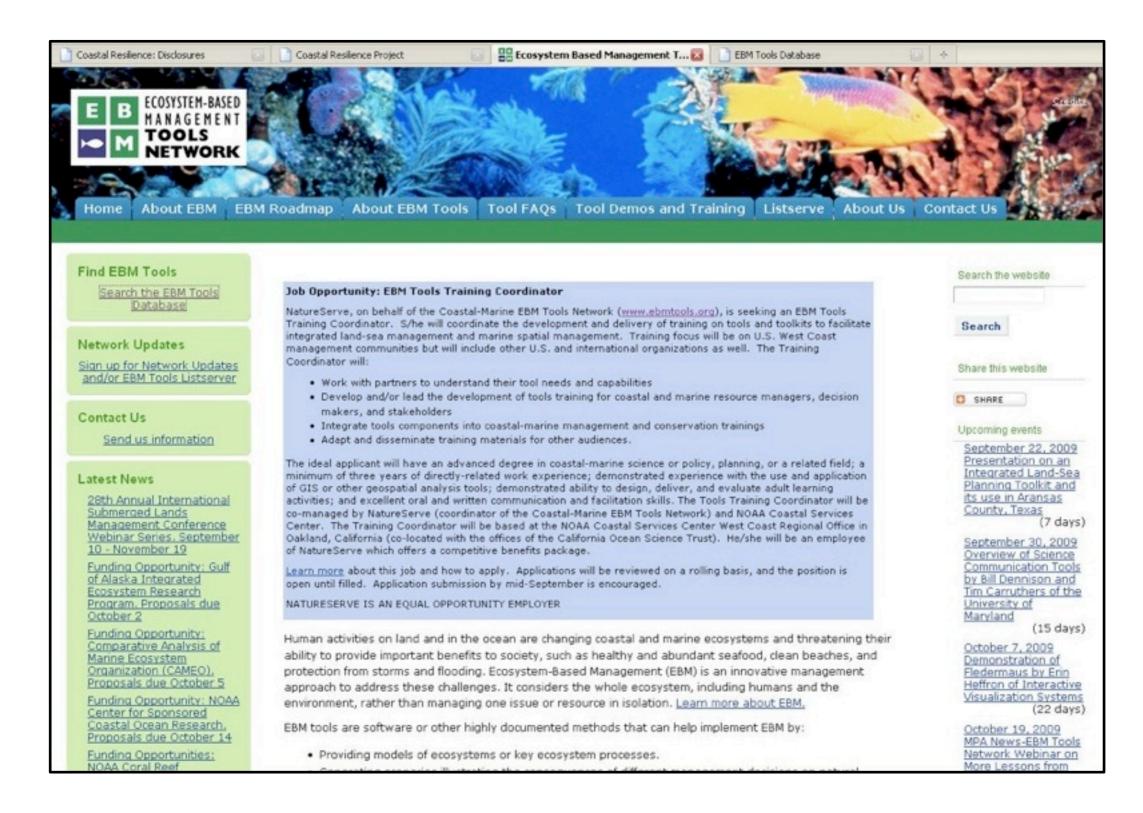


CT, RI, SC, NY, MN, DE

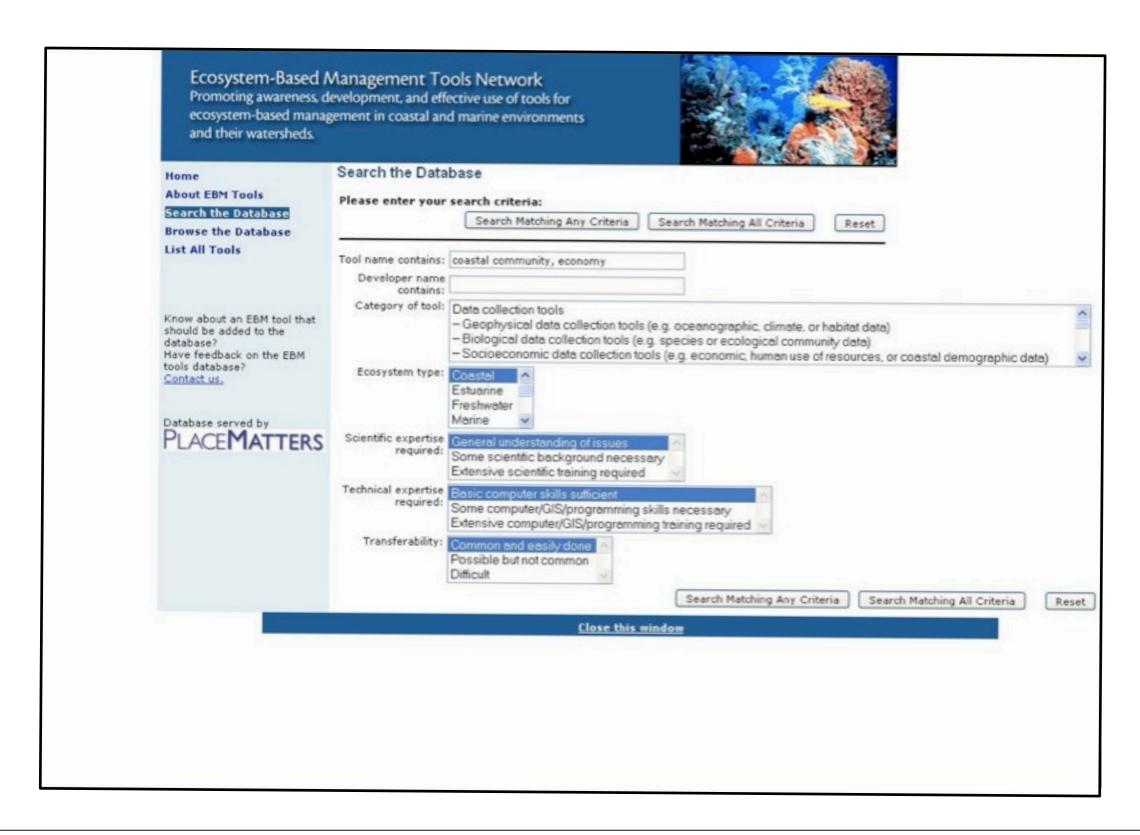




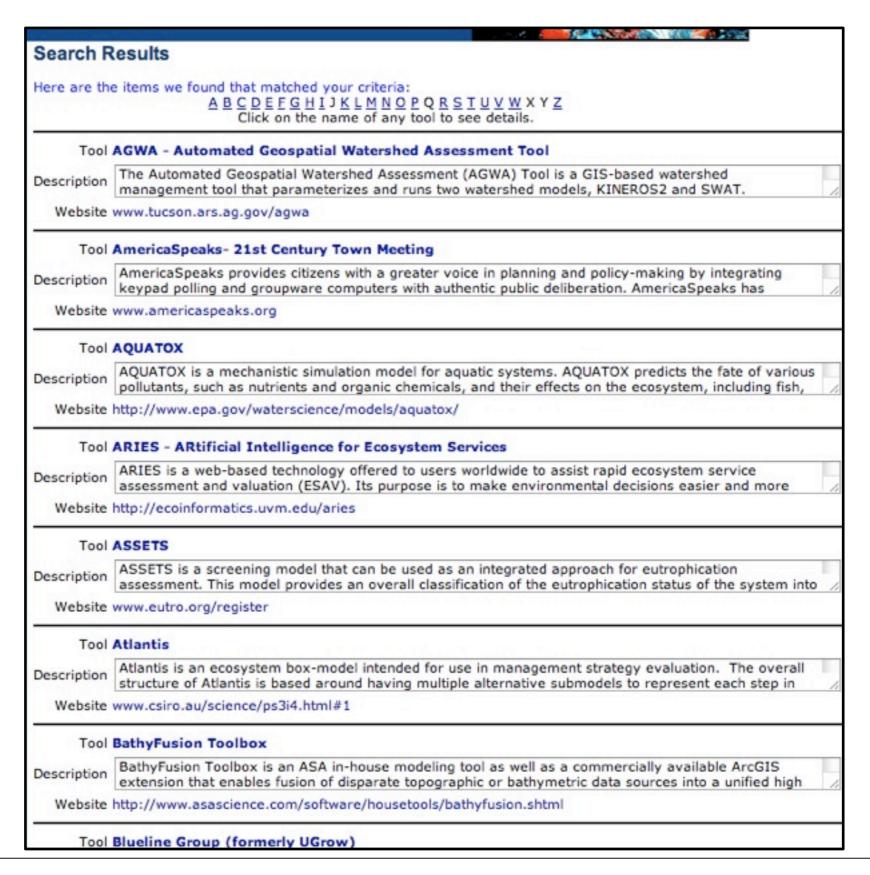
## Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) Tools



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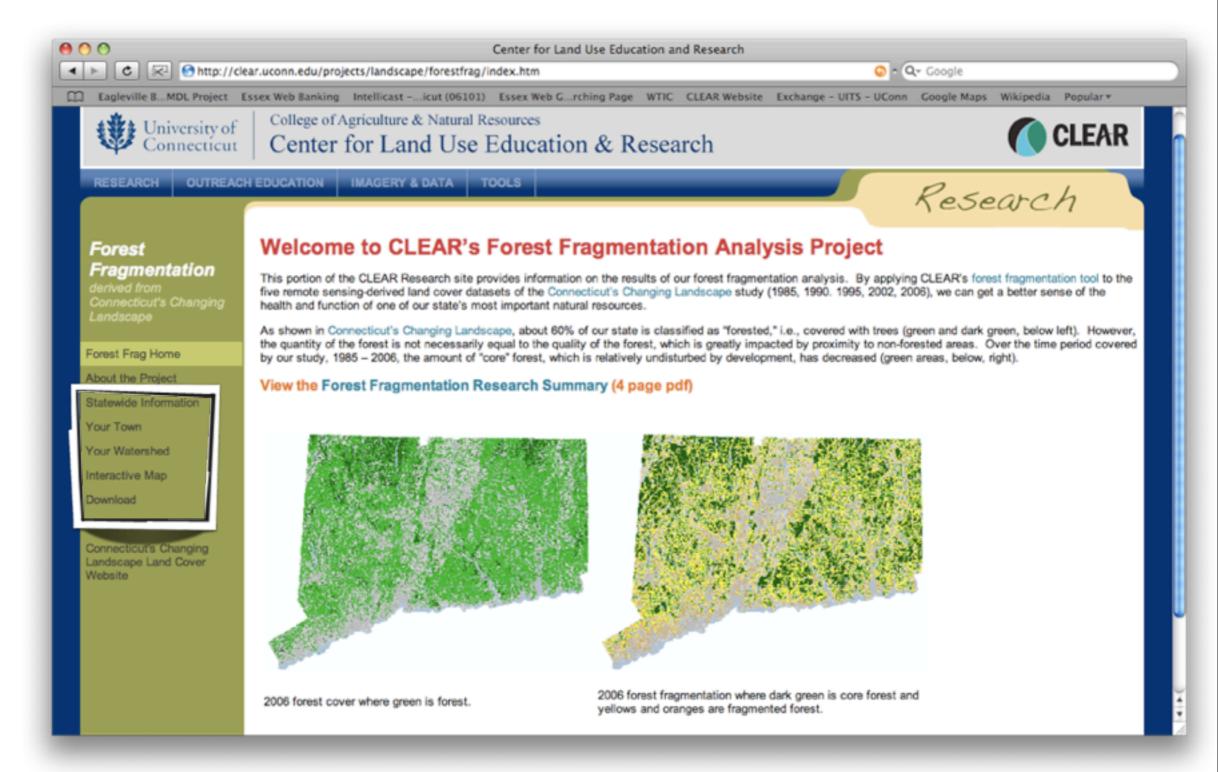
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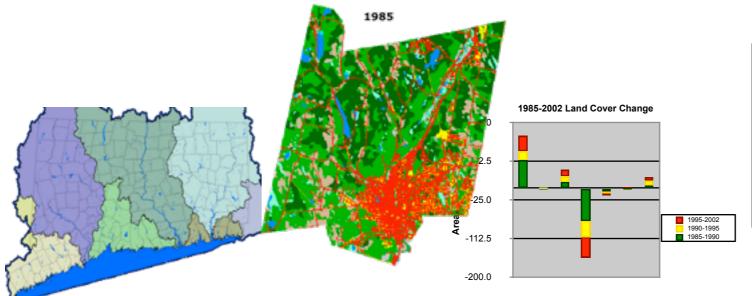
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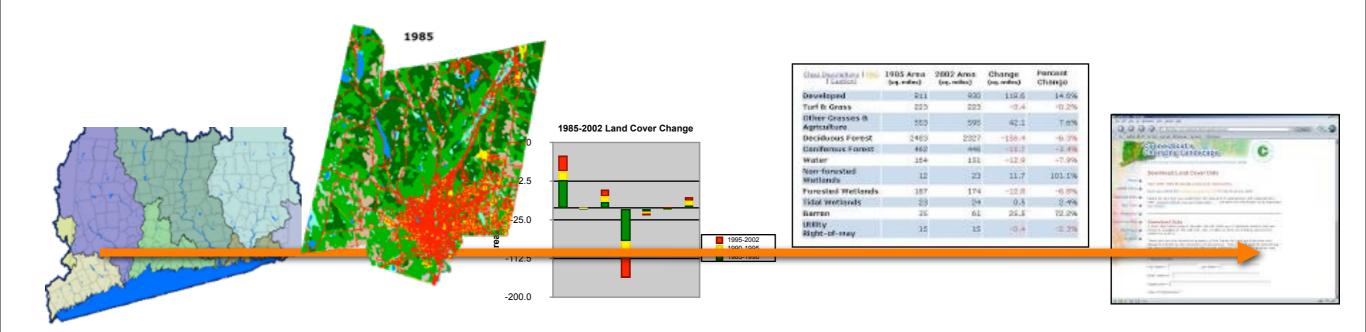
## Accessible at multiple levels The Simpson Scale



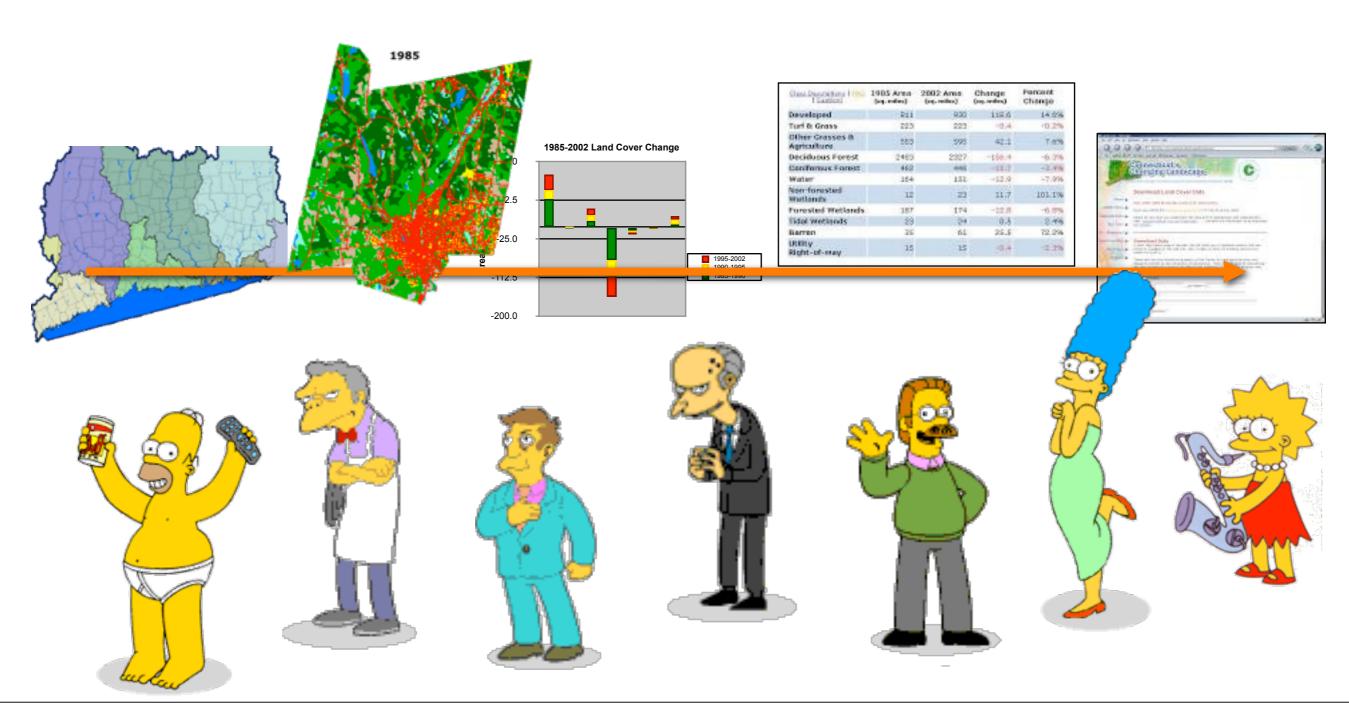
Class Descriptions   Tre-   Castioni	(sq. edes)		Change (vs. miles)	Change
Developed	Rii	930	119.6	14.0%
Turf & Grass	223	223	10.4	10.2%
Other Grasses & Agriculture	583	595	42.1	T.6%
Deciduous Forest	2463	2327	-158.4	-6.2%
Conformus Forest	462	446	-11.7	+3.49
Water	154	151	-12.9	-7,996
Non-forested Wetlands	12	23	11.7	101.1%
Forested Wetlands	387	174	-12.8	-0.0%
Fidal Wetlands	23	24	0.5	3.49
Barren	36	61	25.5	72,2%
DERRY Right-of-may	15	15		-2.29



## Accessible at multiple levels The Simpson Scale



## Accessible at multiple levels The Simpson Scale























... but don't try to legislate integration





## Two examples

(don't ask me of what...)





# Example 1: Riparian buffers & nitrogen input to coastal waters

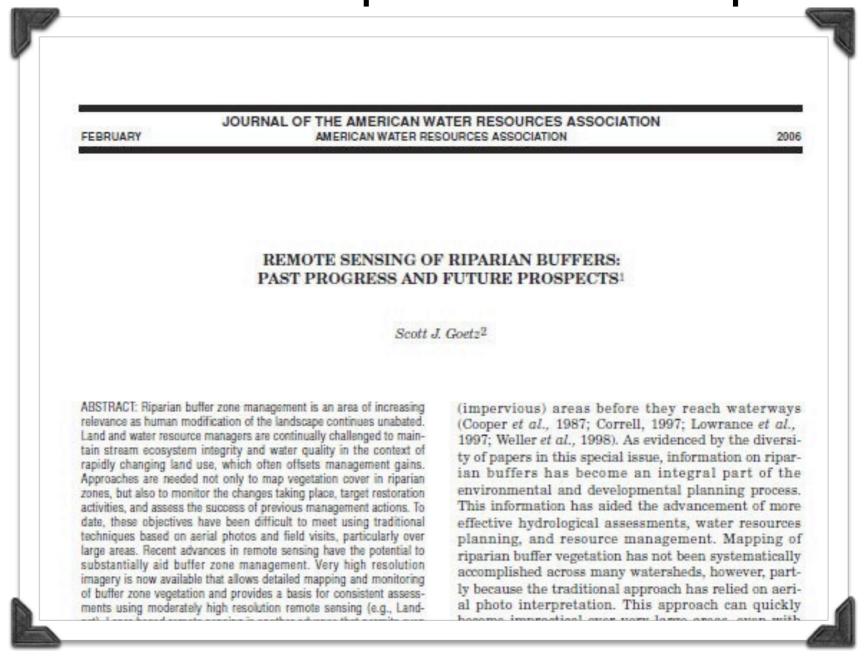


### Research:

determine what's happening to riparian buffers

determine what controls N process in the riparian

zone



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VOL. 37, NO. 6

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#### JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2001

#### LANDSCAPE ATTRIBUTES AS CONTROLS ON GROUND WATER NITRATE REMOVAL CAPACITY OF RIPARIAN ZONES<sup>1</sup>

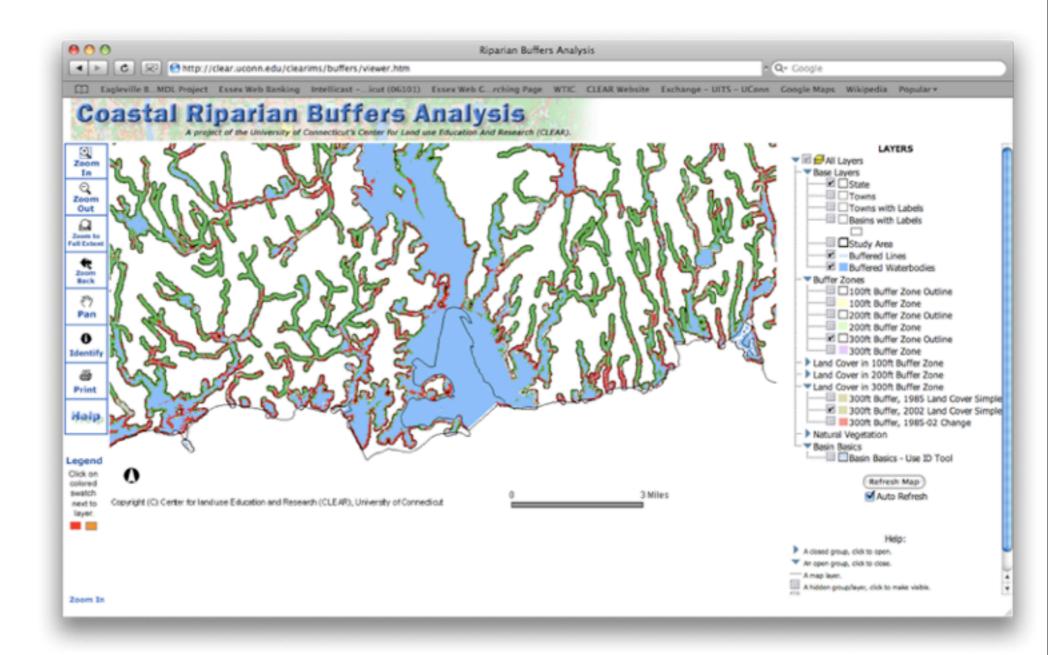
Arthur J. Gold. Peter M. Groffman, Kelly Addy, D. Q. Kellogg, Mark Stolt, and Adam E. Rosenblatt<sup>2</sup>

ABSTRACT: Inherent site factors can generate substantial variation in the ground water nitrate removal capacity of riparian zones. This paper examines research in the glaciated Northeast to relate variability in ground water nitrate removal to site attributes depicted in readily available spatial databases, such as SSURGO. Linking site-specific studies of riparian ground water nitrate removal to spatial data can help target high-value riparian locations for restoration or protection and improve the modeling of watershed nitrogen flux. Site attributes, such as hydric soil status (soil wetness) and geomorphology, affect the interaction of nitrateenriched ground water with portions of the soil ecosystem possessing elevated biogeochemical transformation rates (i.e., biologically active zones). At our riparian sites, high ground water nitrate-N removal rates were restricted to hydric soils. Geomorphology provided insights into ground water flowpaths. Riparian sites located on outwash and organic/alluvial deposits have high potential for nitrate-enriched ground water to interact with biologically active zones. In till deposits, ground water nitrate removal capacity may be limited by the high occurrence of surface seeps that markedly reduce the time available for biological transformations to occur

(Rabalais et al., 1996) to the Baltic Sea (Howarth et al., 1996). Because nitrate is primarily transported to streams via ground water flow, biogeochemical transformations at the interface of streams and the land margin can have a large influence on the export of nitrate from watersheds (Hedin et al., 1998; Lowrance, 1998). However, riparian zones display wide variation in their ground water nitrate removal capacity (Correll, 1997). Clearly, the age and species composition of the vegetated community will have profound effects on riparian nitrate dynamics (Haycock and Pinay, 1993; Osborne and Kovacic, 1993; Schultz et al., 1995; Correll, 2000). However, the nitrate removal capacity of a riparian zone hinges on the interaction of nitrate-enriched ground water with components of the riparian zone that support removal processes, e.g., plant or microbial uptake or denitrifi-

## Technical tools & training:

- construct tools to assess land cover and change in riparian zones (UConn & many, many others)
- construct tools to assess nitrogen-processing riparian zones (URI & UConn)



### **Outreach to Communities: tbd**

- Where do riparian buffers need to be protected?
- How wide do they need to be?
- What mechanisms do we use to protect them??



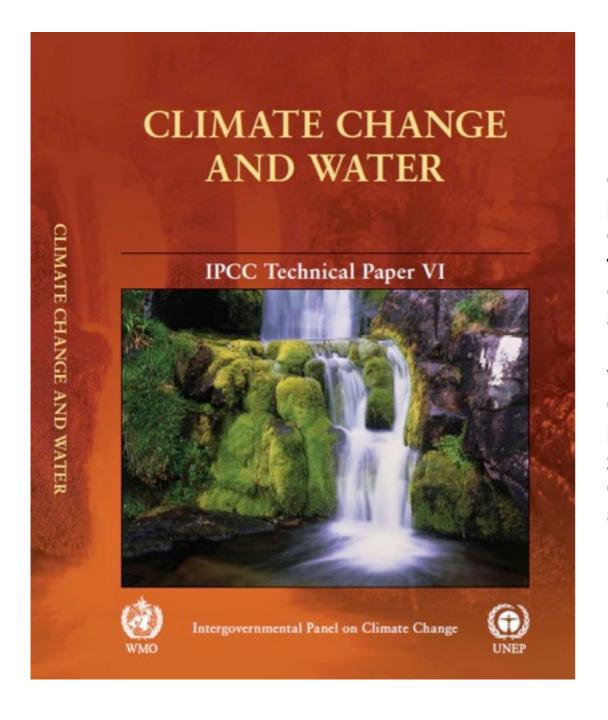


# Example 2: Climate change-induced sea level rise



### Research:

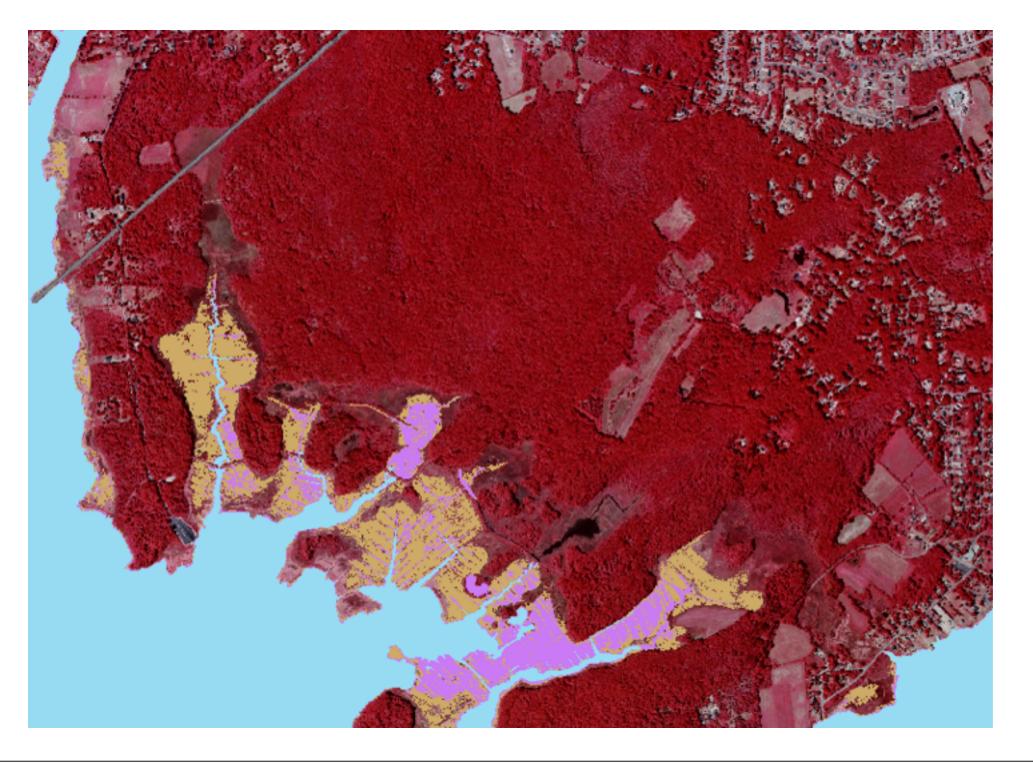
 determine rate & amount of climate change-related sea level rise and other natural resource impacts



Higher water temperatures and changes in extremes, including floods and droughts, are projected to affect water quality and exacerbate many forms of water pollution – from sediments, nutrients, dissolved organic carbon, pathogens, pesticides and salt, as well as thermal pollution, with possible negative impacts on ecosystems, human health, and water system reliability and operating costs (high confidence). In addition, sea-level rise is projected to extend areas of salinisation of groundwater and estuaries, resulting in a decrease of freshwater availability for humans and ecosystems in coastal areas.

### Finer scale research:

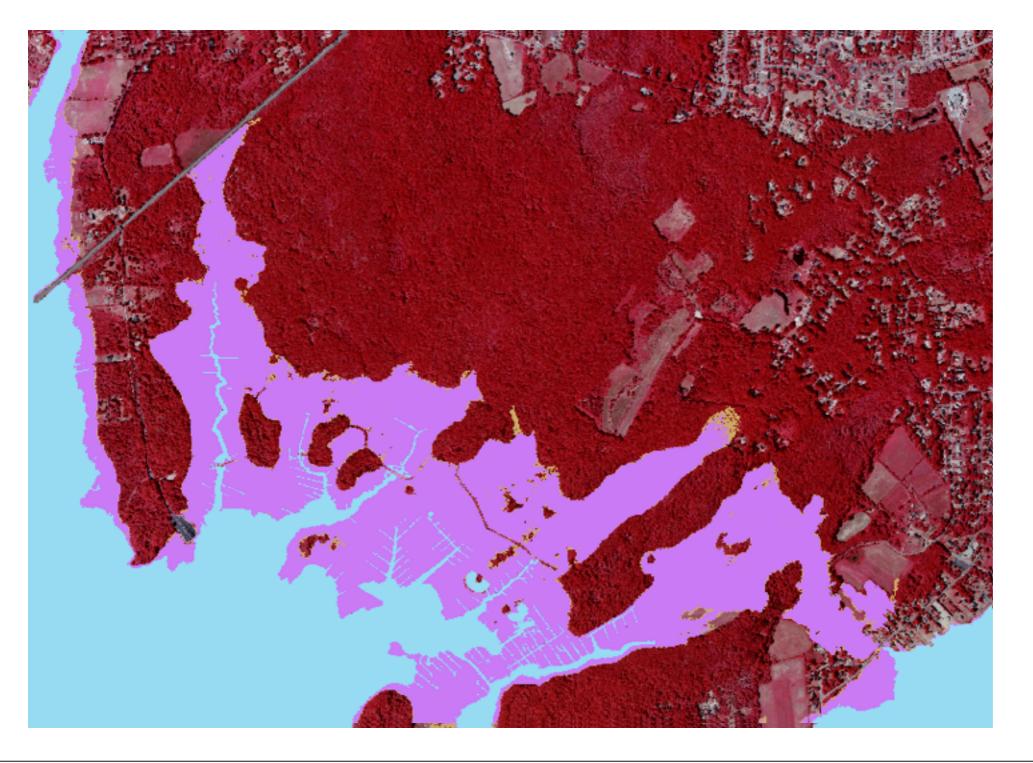
 determine impact of climate change on coastal resources and/or community infrastructure





### Finer scale research:

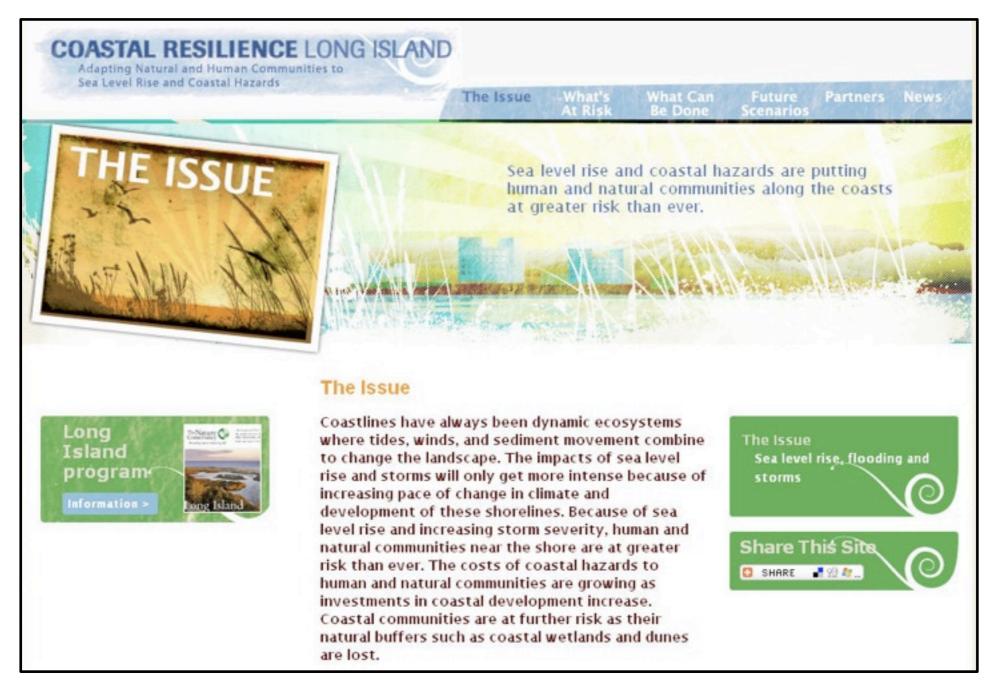
 determine impact of climate change on coastal resources and/or community infrastructure



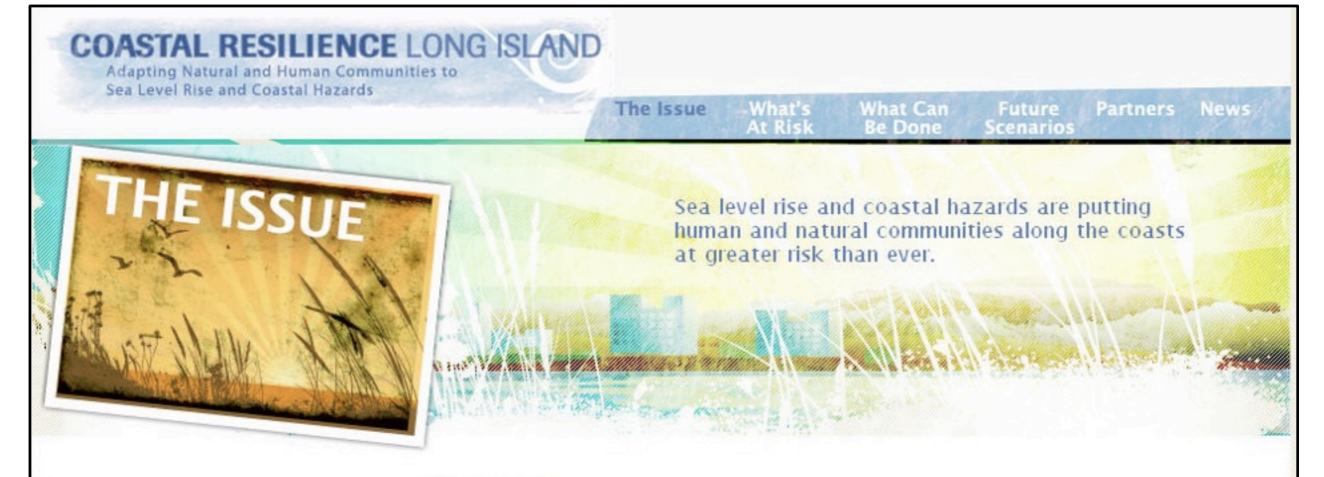


## Technical tools & training:

 what will this sea level rise look like in specific localities, and what are the physical and economic impacts?







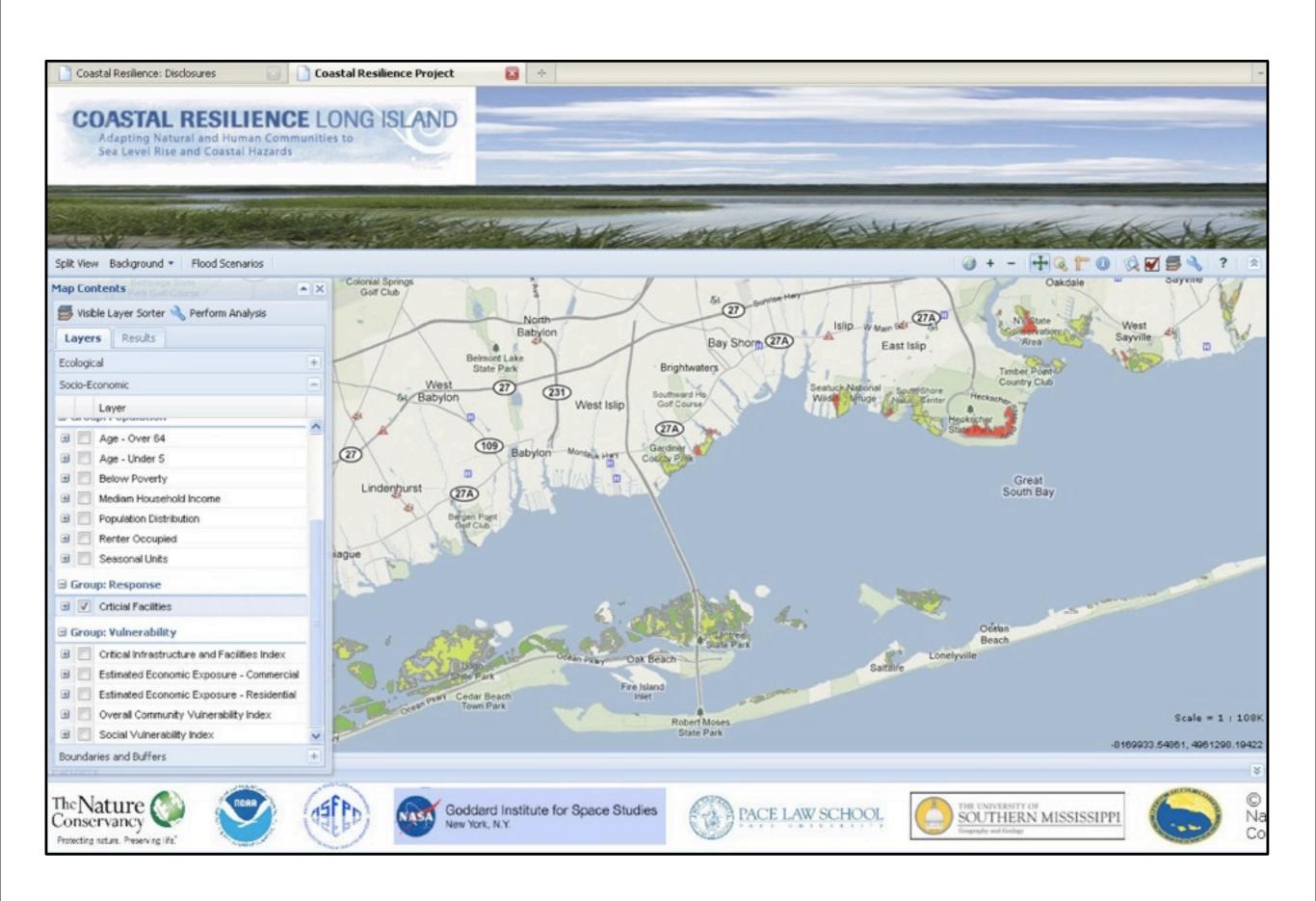
#### The Issue

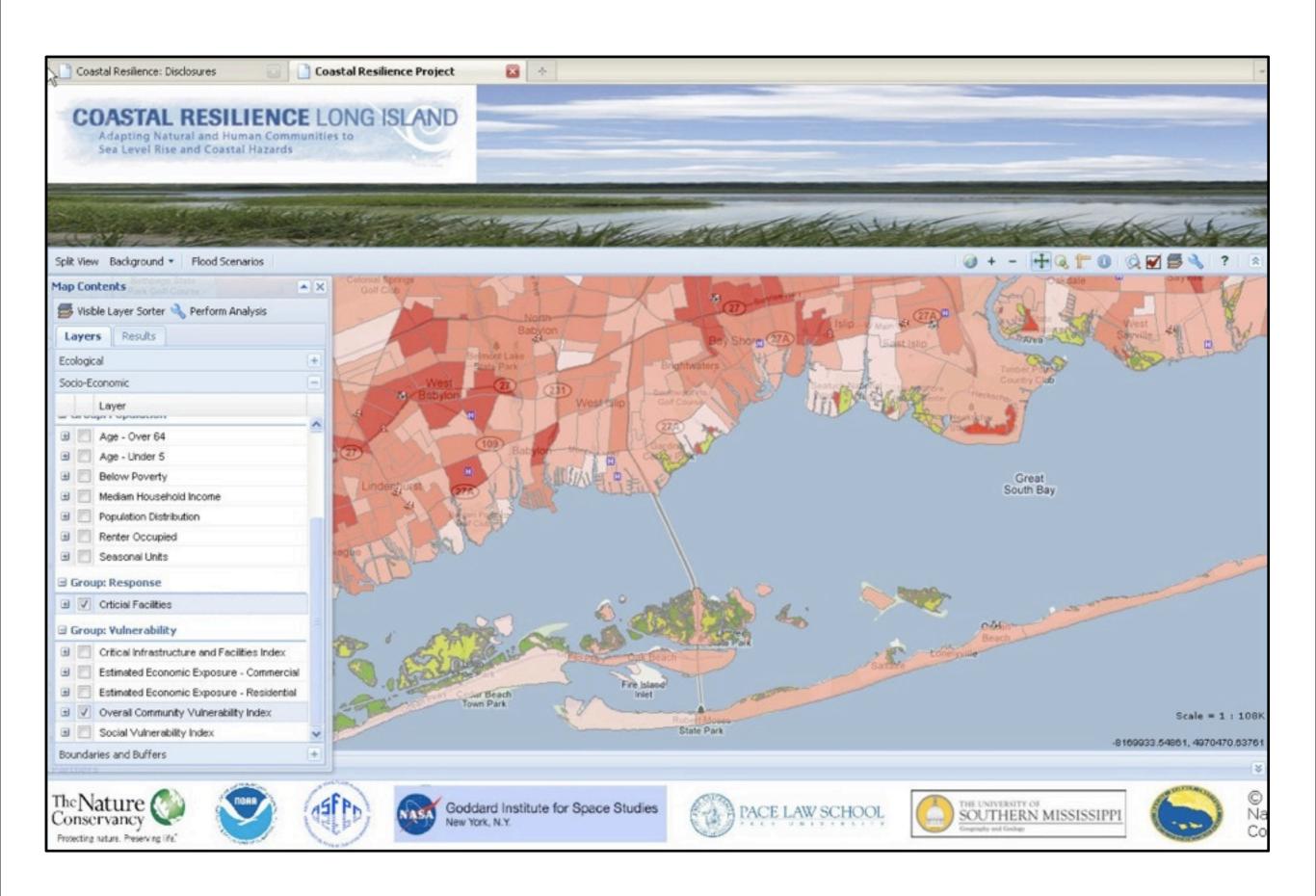
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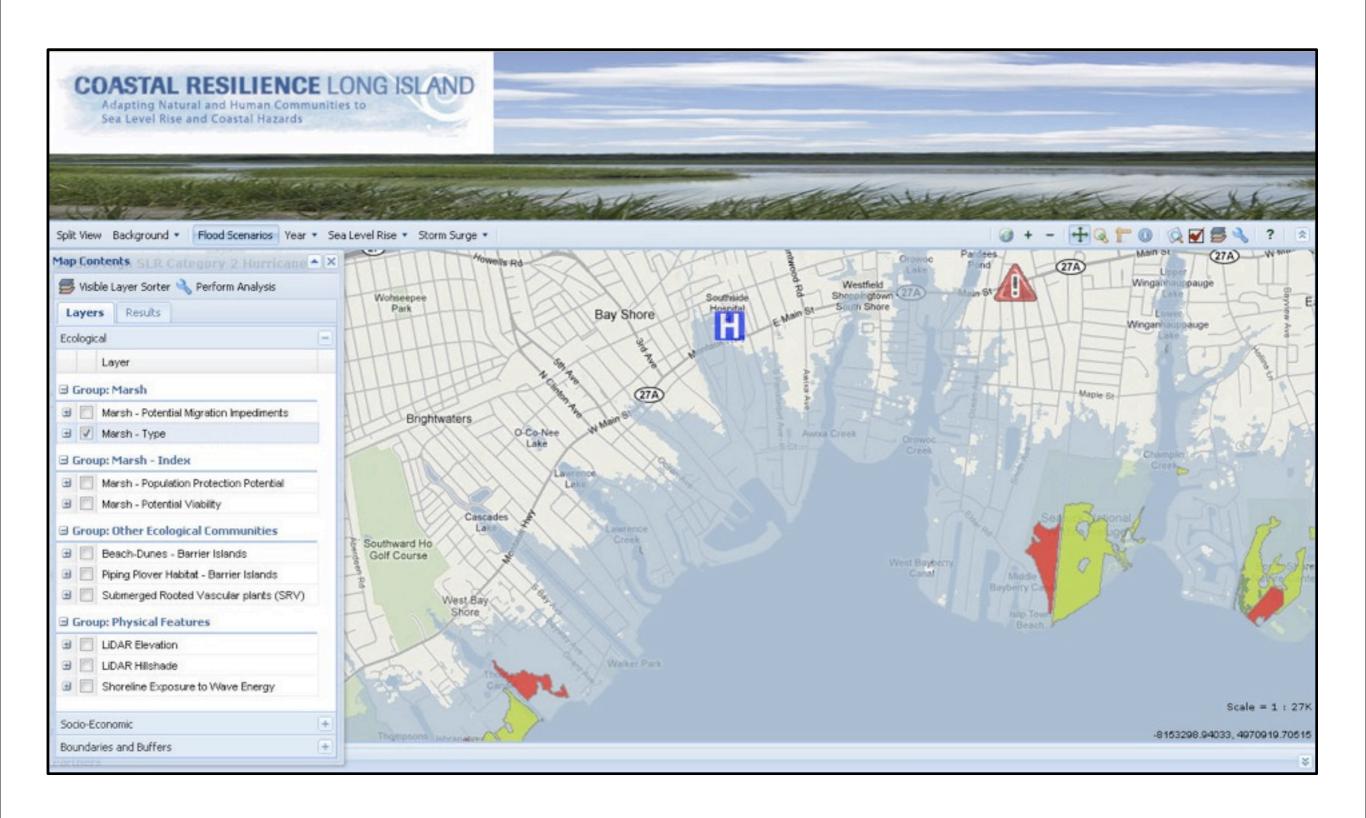
De Nature Constraint State of S

Coastlines have always been dynamic ecosystems where tides, winds, and sediment movement combine to change the landscape. The impacts of sea level rise and storms will only get more intense because of increasing pace of change in climate and development of these shorelines. Because of sea level rise and increasing storm severity, human and natural communities near the shore are at greater risk than ever. The costs of coastal hazards to human and natural communities are growing as investments in coastal development increase. Coastal communities are at further risk as their natural buffers such as coastal wetlands and dunes are lost.

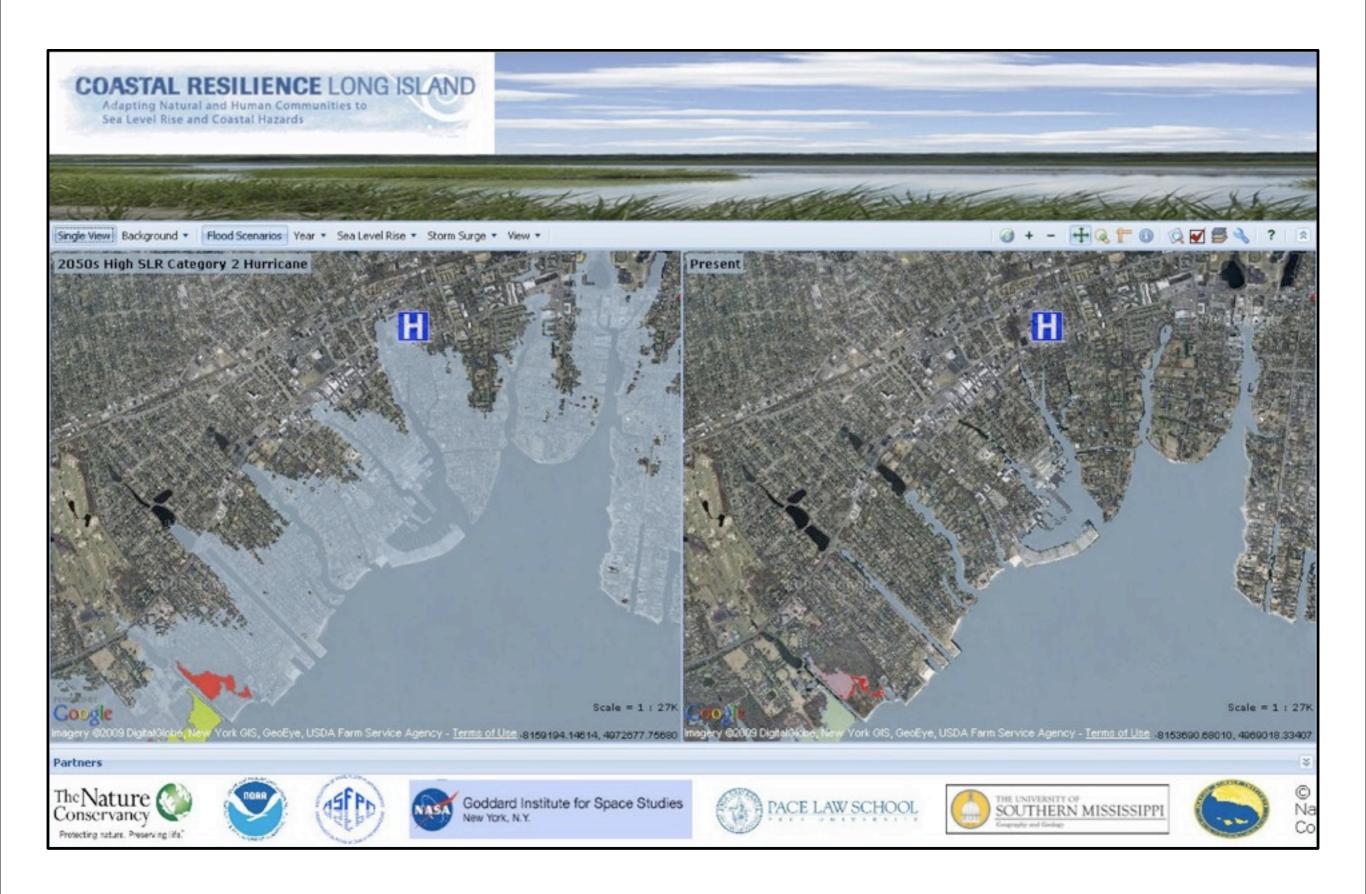








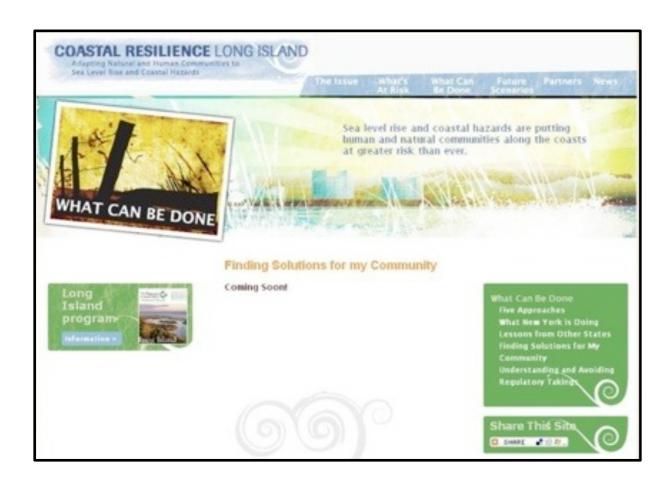




## Decision support/outreach: tbd

 what actions do coastal communities need to take to make them more adaptable to sea level rise?





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## Decision support/outreach: tbd

 what actions do coastal communities need to take to make them more adaptable to sea level rise?





- Stormwater management
- infrastructure planning
- overlay zones
- open space protection
- building codes
- and much more...

"This study illustrates the strong need for boundary organizations to serve various intermediary functions between science and practice, especially in the context of adaptation to global climate change impacts."





begin to plan and prepare for adaptation to climate change.



"This study illustrates the strong need for boundary organizations to serve various intermediary functions between science and practice, especially in the context of adaptation to global climate change impacts."







the study of how science can best support policy-makers and resource managers as they

begin to plan and prepare for adaptation to climate change.



Boundary organization

## TOOL:

## anything used as a means of accomplishing a task or purpose







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anything used as a means of accomplishing a task or purpose

## Support tools-related projects that

- √ create the data and understanding to fuel them
- √ show the creativity to adapt and apply them
- ✓ recognize the need to integrate them with outreach
- ✓ leverage their results







Working with communities is not easy, and a support system helps.



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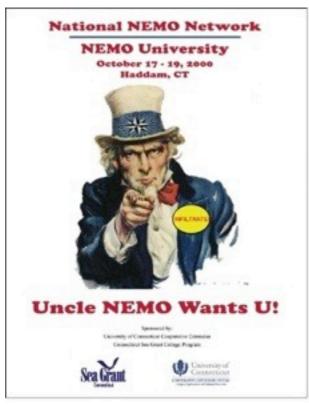


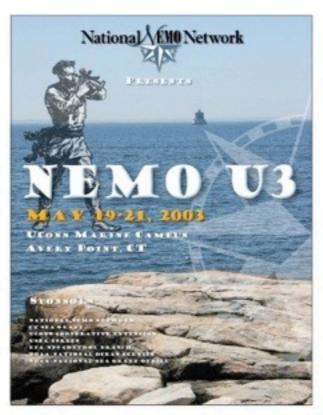


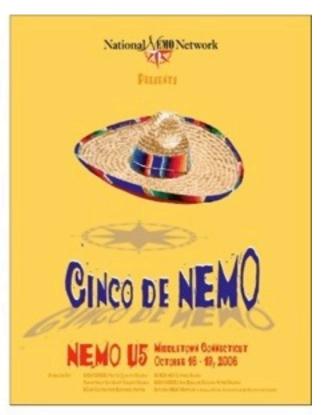
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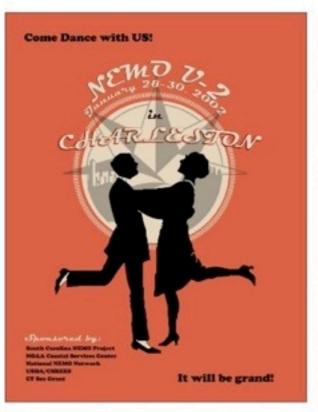


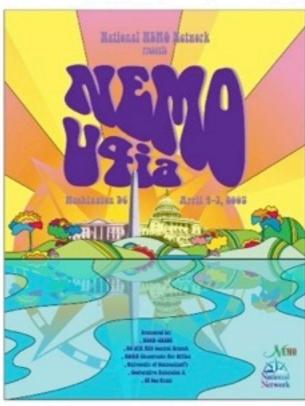


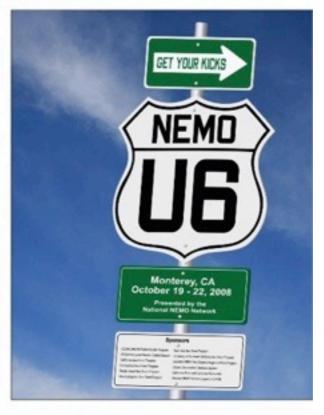


















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